





SECOND ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
TRUSTEES  
OF  
PUBLIC RESERVATIONS

1892



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1893



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[After photographs by W. H. SMITH, Provincetown.]

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OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION,  
1892.

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*President.*

HON. GEORGE F. HOAR, Worcester.

*Vice-President.*

HON. WILLIAM S. SHURTLEFF, Springfield.

*Standing Committee.*

PHILIP A. CHASE, Lynn, *Chairman*.

CHARLES S. SARGENT, Brookline.

HENRY P. WALCOTT, Cambridge.

GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH, 89 State St., Boston, *Treasurer*.

CHARLES ELIOT, Brookline, *Secretary*.

---

FREDERICK L. AMES, Easton.

FRANCIS H. APPLETON, Lynnfield.

FRANKLIN CARTER, Williamstown.

GEORGE W. CHASE, North Adams.

CHRISTOPHER CLARKE, Northampton

CHARLES R. CODMAN, Cotuit.

ELISHA S. CONVERSE, Malden.

DELORAINÉ P. COREY, Malden.

CHARLES H. DALTON, Boston.

WILLIAM C. ENDICOTT, Salem.

J. D. W. FRENCH, North Andover.

E. B. GILLETT, Westfield.

J. EVARTS GREENE, Worcester.

JAMES S. GRINNELL, Greenfield.

AUGUSTUS HEMENWAY, Canton.

NATHANIEL T. KIDDER, Milton.

HENRY M. LOVERING, Taunton.

GEORGE C. MANN, Jamaica Plain.

HENRY L. PARKER, Worcester.

CHARLES S. RACKEMANN, Milton.  
 WILLIAM R. ROBESON, Lenox.  
 JOHN ROBINSON, Salem.  
 JOHN J. RUSSELL, Plymouth.  
 LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, Newton.  
 NATHANIEL S. SHALER, Tisbury.  
 GEORGE SHELDON, Deerfield.  
 DANIEL D. SLADE, Newton.  
 JOSEPH TUCKER, Pittsfield.  
 GEORGE H. TUCKER, Pittsfield.  
 FRANCIS A. WALKER, Boston.  
 WILLIAM WHITING, Holyoke.  
 MOSES WILLIAMS, Brookline.

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## FOUNDERS.

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Miss ELLEN CHASE, Boston.

\* Mrs. FANNY FOSTER TUDOR, Boston.

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## LIFE ASSOCIATES.

---

Frederick L. Ames, Boston.  
 Francis Brooks, Boston.  
 Mrs. Francis Brooks, Boston.  
 Henry Brooks, West Medford.  
 Peter C. Brooks, Boston.  
 Shepherd Brooks, Boston.  
 George A. Farlow, Boston.  
 John M. Forbes, Milton.  
 H. H. Hunnewell, Boston.

E. S. Horsford, Cambridge.  
 Miss M. C. Jackson, Boston.  
 N. T. Kidder, Milton.  
 W. C. Loring, Boston.  
 Mrs. John C. Phillips, Boston.  
 Charles S. Sargent, Brookline.  
 John E. Thayer, South Lancaster.  
 William Whiting, Holyoke.  
 George Wigglesworth, Boston.

## CONTRIBUTORS.

---

- C. H. Adams, Melrose.  
John E. Alden, Boston.  
Miss Sarah W. Ames, W. Bridgewater.  
Appalachian Mountain Club.  
Mrs. Elisha Atkins, Boston.  
Miss Ellen J. Baker, Boston.  
William P. Balles.  
Henry Barrett, Malden.  
Henry H. Barrett, Malden.  
William E. Barrett, Melrose.  
C. C. Barry, Melrose.  
Royal P. Barry, Melrose.  
Frank J. Bartlett, Malden.  
Miss Isabel Batchelder, Cambridge.  
Miss Clara J. Bates, Boston.  
Seth E. Benson, Melrose.  
George J. Bicknell, Melrose.  
Mrs. Liberty Bigelow, Melrose.  
N. D. Blake, Melrose.  
Miss M. E. Bosworth, Somerville.  
J. C. Braman, Boston.  
Henry Brown, Melrose.  
Edward Brooks, Hyde Park.  
Frederick Brooks, Boston.  
Henry Brooks, Melrose.  
Miss Julia Bryant, Paris.  
William H. Cades, Boston.  
J. R. Carret, Boston.  
H. A. Carson, Boston.  
Charles F. Chamberlayne, Boston.  
Mellen Chamberlain, Chelsea.  
J. G. Chandler, Malden.  
A. J. Chase, Malden.  
Miss E. E. Chase, Dorchester.  
Philip A. Chase, Lynn.  
I. Y. Chubbuck, Roxbury.  
C. Frank Close, Melrose.  
H. S. Codman, Brookline.  
Miss M. A. Coe, Boston.  
Otto B. Cole, Boston.  
William C. Collar, Roxbury.  
W. F. Conant, Melrose.  
John M. Corbett, Boston.  
Miss Sarah H. Crocker, Boston.  
Charles R. Cross, Boston.  
Dr. Thomas Crozier, Charlestown.  
Miss M. F. Cummings, Boston.  
R. F. Curtis, Boston.  
Charles A. Cutter, Boston.  
Louis F. Cutter, Boston.  
Miss Susan M. Daniell, Dorchester.  
W. R. Davis, Boston.  
J. P. Deering, Melrose.  
Miss Julia Delano.  
Q. E. Dickermann, Somerville.  
D. Webster Dow, Melrose.  
Walter B. Ellis, Melrose.  
Washburn Emory, Melrose.  
George H. Fall, Malden.  
John E. Farnham, Malden.  
John W. Farwell, Melrose.  
B. Marvin Fernald, Melrose.  
W. N. Folsom, Melrose.  
F. W. Foster, Melrose.  
A. B. Franklin, Melrose.  
F. W. Freeborn, Boston.  
Miss H. E. Freeman, Boston.  
Charles H. French, Canton.  
William E. Fuller.  
G. A. Gibson, Medford.  
L. W. Gilman, Melrose.  
J. O. Goodwin, Medford.  
George L. Gould, Malden.  
Levi S. Gould, Melrose.  
John W. Gourgas, Concord.  
Byron Groce, Roxbury.  
O. B. Hadwen, Worcester.  
George S. Hale, Boston.  
C. C. Hall, Boston.  
I. P. Hall, Boston.



N. P. Hallowell, West Medford.  
 Mrs. George W. Hammond, Boston.  
 C. W. Hardwick, Quincy.  
 Mrs. R. L. Hawes, Boston.  
 Miss Ada H. Hersey, Roxbury.  
 F. S. Hesseltine, Melrose.  
 C. W. Higgins, Melrose.  
 T. W. Higginson, Cambridge.  
 Mrs. P. R. Hollingsworth, Mattapan.  
 E. W. Hooper, Cambridge.  
 Thomas R. Howard.  
 J. C. Howes, Melrose.  
 F. W. Hunt, Melrose.  
 Harry Hunt, Melrose.  
 Harry H. Hunt, Melrose.  
 W. H. Hunt, Lynn.  
 Edmund Hersey, Hingham.  
 Howard & Frohock, Malden.  
 Home & Field Club, Brookline.  
 C. H. Isburgh, Melrose.  
 Miss A. S. Johnson, Boston.  
 G. M. Jones, Salem.  
 George R. Jones, Melrose.  
 Nathaniel P. Jones, Melrose.  
 Miss Louise Kennedy, Concord.  
 Miss M. A. Knowles, Boston.  
 John Larrabee, Melrose.  
 D. W. Lawrence, Medford.  
 Rosewell B. Lawrence, Boston.  
 Henry Lee, Boston.  
 Joseph Lee, Boston.  
 J. R. Leeson, Newton.  
 Royal B. Leighton, Melrose.  
 Miss A. W. Lincoln, Medford.  
 J. N. Lombard, Melrose.  
 Miss M. E. Loud, Chelsea.  
 Henry M. Lovering, Taunton.  
 A. S. Lynde, Melrose.  
 A. V. Lynde, Melrose.  
 J. K. Manning, Medford.  
 Miss Adelina May, Lynn.  
 Winthrop Messenger, Melrose.  
 G. E. Monroe, Melrose.  
 Nathaniel Morton, Plymouth.  
 A. Nickerson, Boston.  
 Walter I. Nickerson, Melrose.  
 W. H. Niles, Cambridge.  
 Edw. E. Norton, Boston.  
 F. H. Odiorne, Boston.

Old Residents' Association, Lowell.  
 Moses Page, Melrose.  
 Miss Isabella Paine, Boston.  
 Julia A. Palmer, Boston.  
 H. J. Pettengill, Melrose.  
 John W. Pettengill, Melrose.  
 Miss Helen Porter, Medford.  
 Henry G. Reed, Taunton.  
 W. S. Richards, Melrose.  
 C. E. Ridler, Boston.  
 T. W. Ripley, Boston.  
 John Ritchie, Boston.  
 Louise E. K. Robson Malden.  
 John Robson, Melrose.  
 Leverett Saltonstall, Boston.  
 Miss E. L. Sampson, Newton.  
 Miss F. W. Sampson, Newton.  
 Wingate P. Sargent, Melrose.  
 E. F. Sawyer, Brighton.  
 L. D. Shaw, Melrose.  
 Francis A. Shove.  
 Miss Zilpha D. Smith, Boston.  
 Frank G. Startial, Melrose.  
 William Steers, Boston.  
 Ezra A. Stevens, Jr., Malden.  
 John D. Street, Boston.  
 John L. Sullivan, M.D., Boston.  
 Mrs. C. H. Talbot, Boston.  
 Rosewell C. Taylor, Melrose.  
 Miss E. A. Thackray, Cambridge.  
 Mrs. C. C. P. Thayer, Boston.  
 William A. Thompson, Boston.  
 Mrs. J. H. Thorndike, Boston.  
 C. Morris Treddick, Malden.  
 J. W. Tufts, Boston.  
 Miss M. I. Tufts, Lynn.  
 William C. Wait, Boston.  
 Miss Mary S. Walker, Waltham.  
 Frank L. Washburn, Melrose.  
 Mrs. H. W. Wellington, Newton.  
 Arthur H. Wellman, Malden.  
 Edmund Wheelwright, Boston.  
 E. L. Whittier, Melrose.  
 Joseph F. Wiggin, Malden.  
 Mrs. S. A. Woods, Boston.  
 Miss E. A. Wright, Medford.  
 Philip G. Wright, Medford.  
 W. C. Wright, Boston.  
 Mrs. M. E. York, Boston.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS, CHAPTER 352, ACTS OF 1891.

SECTION 1. Frederick L. Ames, Philip A. Chase, Christopher Clarke, Charles R. Codman, Elisha S. Converse, George F. Hoar, John J. Russell, Leverett Saltonstall, Charles S. Sargent, Nathaniel S. Shaler, George Sheldon, William S. Shurtleff, George H. Tucker, Francis A. Walker, George Wigglesworth, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of The Trustees of Public Reservations, for the purpose of acquiring, holding, arranging, maintaining, and opening to the public, under suitable regulations, beautiful and historical places and tracts of land within this Commonwealth, with the powers and privileges and subject to the duties set forth in chapter one hundred and fifteen of the Public Statutes and in such other general laws as now are or hereafter may be in force relating to such corporations ; but said corporation shall have no capital stock.

SECT. 2. Said corporation may acquire and hold by grant, gift, devise, purchase, or otherwise, real estate such as it may deem worthy of preservation for the enjoyment of the public, but not exceeding one million dollars in value, and such other property, both real and personal, as may be necessary or proper to support or promote the objects of the corporation, but not exceeding in the aggregate the further sum of one million dollars.

SECT. 3. All personal property held by said corporation, and all lands which it may cause to be opened and kept open to the public, and all lands which it may acquire and hold with this object in view, shall be exempt from taxation in the same manner and to the same extent as the property of literary, benevolent, charitable, and scientific institutions incorporated within this Commonwealth is now exempt by law ; but no lands so acquired and held and not open to the public shall be so exempt from taxation for a longer period than two years. Said corporation shall never make any division or dividend of or from its property or income among its members.

SECT. 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

# BY-LAWS OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS.

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## ARTICLE I.

### OF MEMBERS.

The members of the corporation shall be residents of Massachusetts, and their number shall not exceed fifty.

The Standing Committee may, if it sees fit, nominate persons to membership by inserting the names of candidates upon the notice or warning of any meeting. The election shall take place at any meeting subsequent to such notice, and shall be by ballot upon the names proposed by the Standing Committee; and any person who receives the votes of two-thirds of the members present and voting shall, on his acceptance in writing of his election, be declared and enrolled a member of the corporation. Membership may be terminated by resignation, and shall be terminated by failure for three successive years to attend the annual meeting; but in the latter case the Standing Committee may by vote suspend the operation of this rule when it sees best.

## ARTICLE II.

### OF FOUNDERS, LIFE ASSOCIATES, AND CONTRIBUTORS.

All persons from whom the corporation shall receive real or personal property to the value of one thousand dollars or more shall be permanently enrolled as Founders.

All persons not entitled to be enrolled as Founders, from whom the corporation shall receive real or personal property to the value of one hundred dollars or more, shall be enrolled during life as Life Associates.

All persons, societies, or corporations not entitled to be enrolled as Founders or Life Associates, from whom the corporation shall receive one or more dollars, shall be enrolled as Contributors for the year in which payment of such sum is made.

## ARTICLE III.

## OF MEETINGS.

1. The annual meeting of the corporation shall be held on the last Wednesday in January in Boston or at such other city or town in the Commonwealth, and at such time and place, as the Standing Committee may determine. A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of not less than seven members, but a majority of the members present and voting may adjourn any meeting from time to time until the business shall have been finished.

In the event of the annual meeting, by mistake or otherwise, not being called and held as herein prescribed, the Standing Committee shall order a special meeting to be called and held in lieu of and for the purposes of the annual meeting.

Special meetings of the corporation may be called by the Standing Committee to meet at any time and place. A quorum at a special meeting shall consist of not less than seven members.

2. At all meetings the President shall take the chair as soon as a quorum is present, and the record of the preceding meeting shall then be read, unless such reading is dispensed with by the unanimous consent of those present. After which at all special meetings the business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted, and at the annual meeting the order of business shall be as follows :—

*First.*—The unfinished business and the assignments of the last meeting shall be announced by the Secretary to the President and taken up in order.

*Second.*—The Secretary shall be called on to submit a written report of the doings of the Standing Committee for the year ending with the previous 31st of December.

*Third.*—The Treasurer shall be called upon to submit a written report of his doings for the year ending with the previous 31st of December, and the financial condition of the corporation at that date.

*Fourth.*—The Committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts shall be called on for a report.

*Fifth.*—Any special committee which may have been appointed during the year shall be called on to report.

*Sixth.*—If the Standing Committee shall have proposed changes

in the By-laws, the same shall be voted upon, as provided in Article VII.

*Seventh.*— If the Standing Committee shall have made any nominations to membership in the corporation, an election shall be held, as provided in Article I.

*Eighth.*— An election of officers for the ensuing year shall be held, as provided in Article IV., Section 1.

*Ninth.*— On the announcement of the vote the newly elected President shall take the chair, and shall give the members present an opportunity to present new business.

*Tenth.*— The newly elected President shall appoint a committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

## ARTICLE IV.

### OF OFFICERS.

1. The officers of the corporation shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be *ex-officiis* members of the Standing Committee, which shall consist of five persons in all. The officers and the Standing Committee shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting of the corporation, an adjournment thereof, or at a meeting in lieu of such annual meeting, as above provided; and they shall hold their offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen and qualified in their stead. Any vacancy occurring in any of the above offices from death, resignation, or inability, shall be filled by the Standing Committee at their next regular meeting or at a special meeting to be called for the purpose before such regular meeting.

2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the corporation. If he is absent, the Vice-President, and, if the Vice-President is also absent, a President *pro tempore*, chosen by hand vote of the members of the corporation present, shall preside, and shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the President.

3. The Secretary shall warn the members of all meetings of the corporation, according as he may be directed by votes of the Standing Committee. He shall call the meetings of the Standing Committee as he may be directed by the chairman of the committee or on the request in writing of any two members thereof. He shall carry on all the correspondence of the corporation not otherwise provided for, and shall, when the correspondence is of



importance, preserve copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, for transmission with his records to his successor in office. He shall keep an exact record of all meetings of the corporation and of the Standing Committee, with the names of the members present, entering in full all reports of committees which may be accepted by either body, unless otherwise directed.

At the January meeting of the Standing Committee he shall make a written report of the doings of that body for the year ending on the previous 31st of December; and, if the report is approved, he shall present it at the annual meeting of the corporation.

4. The Treasurer shall, when directed, as provided in the next paragraph, make disbursements; and he shall also collect all moneys due to the corporation, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the corporation which shall come into his hands and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same, which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of members of the corporation. He shall make no investments and pay no moneys without either the approval of a majority of the Standing Committee or else of such officer or committee as said Standing Committee shall appoint to act for it in these matters.

At the January meeting of the Standing Committee he shall make a written report of his doings for the year ending on the previous 31st of December; and, if his report is approved, he shall present it at the annual meeting of the corporation.

## ARTICLE V.

### OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Standing Committee shall, at its first meeting after the annual meeting of the corporation in each year, elect a chairman, whose duty it shall be to preside at all meetings of the committee. In his absence a chairman *pro tempore* may be chosen by hand vote.

The Standing Committee shall meet at least once in every month, and a quorum shall consist of not less than three members.

The Standing Committee may nominate or refuse to nominate new members of the corporation, may accept or decline gifts offered to the corporation, may approve or disapprove investments

or expenditures proposed by the Treasurer, may approve or disapprove all bills against the corporation, may appoint sub-committees of their number, may appoint and remove agents, may engage whatever assistance is needed to administer the affairs of the corporation, may designate such agents and employees by such titles as they may deem proper, and, in general, may exercise all the executive powers of the corporation.

## ARTICLE VI.

### OF THE SEAL.

The corporate seal shall be a circular, flat-faced die of about an inch and a half in diameter, with the name of the corporation, the year of its organization, the word "Massachusetts," and the figure of a pine-tree so engraved on its face that it can be embossed on paper by pressure.

## ARTICLE VII.

### OF AMENDMENTS.

At any annual meeting of the corporation, or at a special meeting called for the purpose, these By-laws may be amended, altered, or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of such proposed change shall have been given in the call of the meeting.

## REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

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*To the Trustees of Public Reservations and their Founders,  
Life Associates, and Contributors:*

In accordance with the By-laws, the Standing Committee submits the following report for the year 1892,—the first whole year of the life of the Corporation:—

The Trustees of Public Reservations have been established by special charter from the General Court, for the purpose of providing a ready instrument by means of which any person, or body of persons, may insure the permanent preservation of any beautiful or historical place in Massachusetts. Lovely and interesting spots have heretofore been too frequently destroyed or enclosed for private use, in spite of the fact that many persons would gladly have endeavored to save them for the public, had there appeared to be any practicable way of so doing. Now that this Board is established, those who really desire the preservation of such spots can no longer find excuse for inactivity. Here is the reliable and permanent body to which the ownership and the care of precious places may safely be intrusted. This Board exists to serve as guardian of these treasures of the State. [See the various circulars reprinted in Appendix I.]

As the years pass, a variety of motives will be found to inspire the giving of lands into the care of the Trustees. Some givers will seek to perpetuate the attractiveness which is the source of the prosperity of all pleasure resorts. Other gifts will spring from the laudable desire to preserve some of the geological, botanical, or archæological wonders of the land. Some will have their origin in the wish to hand



down to posterity unchanged those scenes which have been consecrated by the lives of artists, seers, or poets; and yet others will embody the philanthropic purpose of those who would give crowded populations an opportunity to view the beauty of the fair natural world.

The gift of twenty acres of fine woodland in the township of Stoneham, mentioned in the last report, but received early in this year, seems to have been occasioned by more personal but equally honorable motives. Mrs. Fanny Foster Tudor dedicated her gift to the memory of a daughter by naming it Virginia Wood. It was sad that Mrs. Tudor died in France before the knowledge of the acceptance of the trust by this Board could reach her.

The Wood has been well watched by a man who lives beside it; and no harm was done to it, even in the season when evergreen is much sought for making Christmas decorations. The following notice is kept posted in conspicuous places about the wood:—

#### VIRGINIA WOOD.

GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC BY MRS. FANNY FOSTER TUDOR, IN 1892.

All who enter this Wood are Shareholders in its beauty, and should therefore be vigilant to protect it from injury.

Such acts of trespass as shooting, making fires, cutting or breaking trees, and removing plants, are absolutely forbidden.

If necessary, the police on the adjacent roads should be called upon to enforce this Rule.

THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS.

By the helpful activity of Secretary R. B. Lawrence of the Appalachian Mountain Club, and a few other persons, about two thousand dollars has been collected in small sums and invested by the Treasurer as the Virginia Wood Fund, the income of which will be devoted to the defence of the property. The names of those to whom the public is indebted for this fund will be found in the list of the contributors for the year. Their timely aid insured the acceptance by this

Board of a trust which must otherwise have been regretfully declined.

The last report made mention of the intention of your committee to step a little outside of the narrow view of the Board's duties, and to take action in four directions as follows: "*First*, thoroughly to investigate and then to publish the present facts in respect to the provision of public open spaces in Massachusetts; *second*, to collect and publish the laws of Massachusetts which permit or otherwise affect the acquisition and maintenance of public open spaces; *third*, to call together the numerous park commissioners and park committees of the metropolitan district surrounding Boston, in the hope that mutual acquaintance might encourage co-operative action in the taking of land for public open spaces; *fourth*, to ask the legislature of 1892 to institute an inquiry into the whole subject."

The collection of the facts respecting the present provisions of public open spaces, begun by Mr. Harrison in the seacoast towns last year and so entertainingly related by him in the appendix to our first report, has been continued during this year through correspondence, and by means of a circular letter of inquiry addressed to all the city and town clerks. The details of the returns will be found in Appendix II. It appears that the large areas of undivided or common lands, which once were to be found in most of the townships of the Commonwealth, have all been allotted or sold to individuals, except in the island of Nantucket, where there still remain at least one thousand acres of undivided common. It is interesting to note that the Park Board and the Water Board of the city of Lynn have lately restored to public ownership about two thousand acres of woodland which once was a common of this large kind.

It appears that the smaller commons which the first proprietors of townships almost invariably laid out as "training-fields" and sites for "meeting-houses" are still the only public open spaces of most of the townships of the State. Some of them have been encroached upon, some have

passed into the exclusive possession of the "first churches," some into the exclusive possession of the townships. Some are said to be still owned jointly by township and church. Where the towns have come into possession, they have frequently given the charge of the commons to village or township improvement associations, in accordance with Chapter 157 of the Acts of 1885 or the pre-existing Public Statutes. Only a few of the rural townships have acquired new public open spaces in recent years. In Manchester public rights in certain sea beaches have been established, and a long strip of roadside woodland has been deeded to the town in trust. In Sheffield a beautiful pine grove is held in trust for the public by five trustees. Georgetown has laid out nine small spaces within forty years. The rural and seaside townships would be rendered much more permanently attractive than they are, if it were known that in one of them the narrow gorge of a swift stream was forever open; in another, the summit of a commanding hill or mountain; in another, a cliff or beach of the seashore. It would be greatly for the advantage of the Commonwealth if such persons as have recently placed public libraries throughout the State would now turn their attention to the permanent preservation of those beautiful and historical places which so adorn and enrich the land.

In the cities of the State the General Park Act, passed in 1882, has now begun to produce excellent fruit. Two considerable cities, Gloucester and Everett, as yet possess no public recreation grounds; and Fitchburg has 14,691 persons for each acre of such grounds. But, on the other hand, a majority of the cities of Massachusetts now possess sufficient public acres to make the number of their inhabitants per acre of public lands something under five hundred, which is a fairly good showing. The relative standing of the cities is as follows:—

Cities of Massachusetts.	Population of 1890.	Acres of public open space.	Inhabitants per acre of open space.
Lynn, . . . . .	55,727	2,054	27.1
Medford, . . . . .	11,079	232	47.7
Worcester, . . . . .	84,655	1,364	62
Marlboro, . . . . .	13,805	186	74.2
Springfield, . . . . .	44,179	359	123
Quincy, . . . . .	16,723	112	149.3
Boston, . . . . .	448,477	1,456	307.4
Waltham, . . . . .	18,707	57	328.2
Woburn, . . . . .	13,499	38	355.2
Pittsfield, . . . . .	17,281	48	360
Cambridge, . . . . .	70,028	174	402.5
Lowell, . . . . .	77,696	189	411
Haverhill, . . . . .	27,412	60	456.8
Newton, . . . . .	24,379	50	487.5
Newburyport, . . . . .	13,947	23	606.3
Lawrence, . . . . .	44,654	73	611.7
Salem, . . . . .	30,801	42	733.3
Somerville, . . . . .	40,152	45	892.2
Fall River, . . . . .	74,398	80	929.9
Malden, . . . . .	23,031	20	1,151.5
Northampton, . . . . .	14,990	6	2,498.3
Holyoke, . . . . .	35,637	8	4,454.8
New Bedford, . . . . .	40,733	8	5,091.6
Chelsea, . . . . .	27,909	5	5,581.8
Chicopee, . . . . .	14,050	2.5	5,620
Taunton, . . . . .	25,448	3	8,482.6
Fitchburg, . . . . .	22,037	1.5	14,691.3
Everett, . . . . .	11,068	0	
Gloucester, . . . . .	24,651	0	

It may be well to recapitulate the several ways in which those who may desire to establish public reservations may now proceed. *First*, a gift of land may be made to the town in which the land lies, provided the town will accept the gift by vote. *Second*, a gift of land for "park purposes" may be made to any town or city which has accepted the Park Act of 1882, with the consent of the Park Commission instead of that of the voters. Moreover, by rousing a public opinion which will vote money for the use of the Park Commissions, these commissions may be led to exercise their power to purchase and, if necessary, to condemn lands within the limits of

their respective towns and cities. *Third*, land may be given, or purchased and then given, into the charge of the Trustees of Public Reservations, a body not influenced by any of the considerations which necessarily govern the acceptance or rejection of lands offered to towns and cities. For example, the Trustees would not, as some towns have done, reject a gift because the land was found to lie remote from the village or upon the boundary of the next town. Town bounds are of no account to this Board, which has only the interests of the whole State at heart. Let the towns and cities of the Commonwealth buy and assume the charge of as many public reservations as they may, and there will still remain many special cases where the powers of trusteeship which have been granted to this Board will prove useful and indeed invaluable.

The collection of the laws of Massachusetts affecting public open spaces, and governing the opening thereof, will be found in the appendix to our first report, copies of which may still be obtained by addressing the secretary.

The result of the third and fourth determinations of the committee, and the petitions to the General Court of 1892 which resulted therefrom, was the appointment of a *joint special committee on public reservations*, which, upon the petition of several thousand citizens of the metropolitan district of Boston, and with the assistance of a committee representing the local park boards, reported an act creating a commission to inquire and report upon the subject of ample open spaces for the whole neighborhood of Boston. The report of these commissioners, Messrs. C. F. Adams, Philip A. Chase, and W. B. de las Casas, must be presented to the legislature of 1893. It is to be hoped that it may lead to the establishment of an executive metropolitan commission possessed of power to ignore the local boundaries which so hamper the existing local park boards.

It will be remembered that a special report from Agent J. B. Harrison, describing the condition of the Province



Lands upon Cape Cod, led your committee to petition the General Court of 1892 for better management for the State's domain. Accordingly, the special joint committee on public reservations gave a hearing on the subject, when numerous petitioners from Provincetown also appeared, asking for a special appropriation for roads across the sands. The members of the committee were very busy over other matters, and both petitions were referred to the next General Court; but at the instigation of Provincetown people an Act was passed on the last day of the session, which directed the Trustees of Public Reservations to investigate the condition of the lands in question and to report in 1893. As authorized by the full Board, your committee has attended to this unlooked for and somewhat troublesome matter, and has filed a report which reviews the whole subject and insists upon the need of better management for the sake of preserving the invaluable harbor which the Province Lands enclose. This report to the General Court will be found in Appendix III.

The above report is respectfully submitted.

PHILIP A. CHASE,  
CHARLES S. SARGENT,  
HENRY P. WALCOTT,  
GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH,  
CHARLES ELIOT,

*Standing Committee.*

BOSTON, Jan. 25, 1893.

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

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*To the Trustees of Public Reservations and their Founders,  
Life Associates, and Contributors :*

During the past year subscriptions have been received for two different purposes, namely :—

First. For the general object of the Corporation.

Second. For the care and protection of the tract of woodland in Stoneham, known as Virginia Wood, the property of the Trustees of Public Reservations.

The subscriptions for the general objects of the Corporation have amounted to thirteen hundred and fifty-three dollars (\$1,353).

The subscriptions for the Virginia Wood Fund amounted to eighteen hundred and fifty-nine dollars and sixty-five cents (\$1,859.65).

Among the subscriptions above referred to is one of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) from Miss Ellen Chase. Miss Chase's name has therefore been added to the list of Founders of the Corporation.

Three of the contributions have amounted each to a hundred dollars or more, and the names of these three contributors have therefore been added to the list of the Life Associates of the Corporation.

The greater portion of the money contributed for the Virginia Wood Fund has been invested in two Great Northern Railway 4 per cent. gold bonds of the face value of \$2,000, costing \$1,840.

GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH, *Treasurer*, IN ACCOUNT WITH  
THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS.

*From Jan. 1, 1892, to Jan. 2, 1893.*

Dr.	GENERAL ACCOUNT.	Cr.
1892.		By Cash :
Jan. 1.		Printing, stamps, etc., . . \$506.43
To Balance, . . . . .	\$271.76	Secretary's expenses, . . . 37.40
Subscriptions during		Balance, . . . . . 1,090.72
1892, . . . . .	1,353.00	
Interest from State St.		
Safe Deposit & Trust		
Co. to Jan. 1, 1893, . .	9.79	
	<u>\$1,634.55</u>	<u>\$1,634.55</u>
1893.		
Jan. 2. To Balance, . . .	\$1,090.72	

Dr.	AGENT'S ACCOUNT.	Cr.
1892.		1892.
Jan. 1. To Balance, . . .	\$371.67	May 6.
		By Cash (paid to J. B. Har-
		rison), . . . . . \$30.00
		Balance, . . . . . 341.67
	<u>\$371.67</u>	<u>\$371.67</u>
1893.		
Jan. 2. To Balance, . . .	\$341.67	

Dr.	VIRGINIA WOOD FUND.	Cr.
1892.		1892.
Jan. 1. To Balance, . . .	\$107.00	May 28.
Subscriptions, . . . . .	1,859.65	By \$2,000 Great Northern
		Railway 4% Gold Bonds, \$1,840.00
		Aug. 12. By Cash, printing, 4.50
		Balance, . . . . . 122.15
	<u>\$1,966.65</u>	<u>\$1,966.65</u>
1893.		
Jan. 2. To Balance, . . .	\$122.15	



## PROVINCE LANDS.

1892.			1892.		
Dec. 31. To Balance, . .	\$802 83		Dec. 31. By Cash,* . . .	\$802.83	
	<u>\$802.83</u>			<u>\$802.83</u>	
			1893.		
			Jan. 2. By Balance, . . .	\$802.83	

The subscriptions for general purposes and for the Virginia Wood Fund have been as follows:—

## FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

Miss Z. D. Smith, . . . .	\$5.00	Charles F. Chamberlayne, .	\$1.00
Louis Robson, . . . . .	10.00	William Whiting, . . . . .	100.00
Miss Ellen Chase, . . . .	1,000.00	Philip A. Chase, . . . . .	25.00
Mrs. J. H. Thorndike, . .	5.00	Mrs. H. W. Wellington, . .	1.00
Henry G. Reed, . . . . .	20.00	J. C. Braman, . . . . .	10.00
William E. Fuller, . . . .	5.00	Miss Mary Sophia Walker, .	10.00
Henry M. Lovering, . . .	25.00	George A. Farlow, . . . .	100.00
Old Residents' Historical As-		Appalachian Mountain Club,	25.00
sociation of Lowell, . . .	1.00	William C. Hades, . . . . .	10.00

## FOR THE VIRGINIA WOOD FUND.

Mrs. Elisha Atkins, . . . .	\$50.00	L. F. Cutter, . . . . .	\$5.00
N. P. Hallowell, . . . . .	10.00	C. C. Hall, . . . . .	5.00
William H. Cades, . . . .	10.00	I. P. Hall, . . . . .	5.00
Miss Helen Porter, . . . .	10.00	Mrs. R. L. Hawes, . . . . .	5.00
Louis E. K. Robson, . . . .	10.00	W. R. Davis, . . . . .	5.00
Mrs. Liberty Bigelow, . . .	5.00	R. F. Curtis, . . . . .	5.00
John D. Street, . . . . .	5.00	E. E. Norton, . . . . .	5.00
Miss Ellen J. Baker, . . . .	2.00	M. Chamberlain, . . . . .	5.00
Byron Groce, . . . . .	2.00	Mrs. P. R. Hollingsworth, .	5.00
T. W. Higginson, . . . . .	3.00	J. A. Palmer, . . . . .	5.00
Miss M. C. Jackson, . . . .	300.00	G. M. Jones, . . . . .	5.00
J. W. Tufts, . . . . .	25.00	Mrs. C. C. P. Thayer, . . .	5.00
William H. Niles, . . . . .	10.00	William C. Wait, . . . . .	2.00
I. Y. Chubbuck, . . . . .	10.00	J. R. Carret, . . . . .	5.00
C. H. Hardwick, . . . . .	10.00	A. Nickerson, . . . . .	5.00
E. F. Sawyer, . . . . .	5.00	D. W. Lawrence, . . . . .	10.00
William C. Collar, . . . . .	5.00	W. C. Wright, . . . . .	10.00

\* These expenses were incurred in the performance by the Trustees of the duties imposed upon them by the last legislature with reference to the Province Lands at Provincetown. The sums thus paid out are to be repaid by the Commonwealth.

J. K. Manning, . . . . .	\$10.00	C. Morris Fredick, . . . . .	\$5.00
Miss E. M. Wright, . . . . .	5.00	George L. Gould, . . . . .	2.00
Miss A. W. Lincoln, . . . . .	5.00	A. J. Chase, . . . . .	5.00
F. W. Freeborn, . . . . .	5.00	H. A. Carson, . . . . .	5.00
Dr. Thomas Crozier, . . . . .	5.00	J. G. Chandler, . . . . .	5.00
J. E. Alden, . . . . .	5.00	Frank J. Bartlett, . . . . .	10.00
Miss E. A. Thackray, . . . . .	5.00	J. O. Goodwin, . . . . .	5.00
Mrs. S. A. Woods, . . . . .	5.00	Home and Field Club, . . . . .	5.00
Miss H. E. Freeman, . . . . .	2.00	Mrs. M. E. York, . . . . .	1.00
A. S. Johnson, . . . . .	2.00	Miss M. I. Tufts, . . . . .	1.00
M. E. Bosworth, . . . . .	2.00	Miss E. E. Chase, . . . . .	1.00
M. F. Cummings, . . . . .	2.00	John M. Corbett, . . . . .	5.00
Miss Adelina May, . . . . .	1.00	F. H. Odiorne, . . . . .	5.00
Miss Isabella Paine, . . . . .	1.00	G. A. Gibson, . . . . .	10.00
M. A. Knowles, . . . . .	1.00	Royal P. Barry, . . . . .	25.00
E. L. Sampson, . . . . .	1.00	Nathaniel P. Jones, . . . . .	25.00
F. W. Sampson, . . . . .	1.00	John W. Farwell, . . . . .	25.00
Miss Clara J. Bates, . . . . .	1.00	A. V. Lynde, . . . . .	25.00
Miss Susan M. Daniell, . . . . .	1.00	Harry Hunt, . . . . .	10.00
Miss Isabel Batchelder, . . . . .	1.00	Levi S. Gould, . . . . .	10.00
Charles H. French, . . . . .	25.00	Washburn Emery, . . . . .	10.00
Rosewell B. Lawrence, . . . . .	10.00	Winthrop Messenger, . . . . .	10.00
Charles R. Cross, . . . . .	10.00	A. B. Franklin, . . . . .	10.00
C. A. Cutter, . . . . .	5.00	Seth E. Benson, . . . . .	10.00
Miss Sarah W. Ames, . . . . .	2.00	J. C. Howes, . . . . .	10.00
Miss M. A. Coe, . . . . .	2.00	B. Marvin Fernald, . . . . .	10.00
John W. Gourgas, . . . . .	1.00	William E. Barrett, . . . . .	10.00
Mrs. J. H. Thorndike, . . . . .	5.00	T. W. Ripley, . . . . .	10.00
William A. Thompson, . . . . .	10.00	Frank L. Washburn, . . . . .	10.00
Philip G. Wright, . . . . .	5.00	N. D. Blake, . . . . .	10.00
Mrs. M. E. Loud, . . . . .	5.00	George J. Bicknell, . . . . .	10.00
Miss Ada H. Hersey, . . . . .	1.00	Heman J. Pettengill, . . . . .	10.00
W. H. Hunt, . . . . .	1.00	C. H. Isburgh, . . . . .	10.00
C. E. Ridler, . . . . .	1.00	F. S. Hesseltine, . . . . .	10.00
Mrs. C. H. Talbot, . . . . .	1.00	F. W. Hunt, . . . . .	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Otto B. Cole, . . . . .	2.00	Walter B. Ellis, . . . . .	5.00
Philip A. Chase, . . . . .	20.00	Roswell C. Taylor, . . . . .	5.00
Francis Brooks, . . . . .	100.00	Moses Page, . . . . .	10.00
P. C. Brooks, . . . . .	100.00	George R. Jones, . . . . .	5.00
Mrs. Francis Brooks, . . . . .	100.00	C. C. Barry, . . . . .	5.00
Shepherd Brooks, . . . . .	100.00	W. F. Conant, . . . . .	5.00
Henry Brooks, . . . . .	100.00	Royal B. Leighton, . . . . .	5.00
Edmund Dwight, . . . . .	50.00	C. H. Adams, . . . . .	5.00
E. S. Converse, . . . . .	50.00	Henry Brown, . . . . .	5.00
Frederick Brooks, . . . . .	25.00	Frank G. Startial, . . . . .	5.00
Edward Brooks, . . . . .	25.00	Harry H. Hunt, . . . . .	5.00
E. M. Wheelwright, . . . . .	5.00	C. Frank Close, . . . . .	5.00
Howard & Frohock, . . . . .	25.00	Wingate P. Sargent, . . . . .	5.00
George H. Fall, . . . . .	10.00	J. P. Deering, . . . . .	5.00

L. W. Gilman, . . . . .	\$5.00	W. S. Richards, . . . . .	\$1.00
G. E. Monroe, . . . . .	5.00	John Robson, . . . . .	10.00
Frank W. Foster, . . . . .	5.00	John W. Pettengill, . . . . .	5.00
William N. Folsom, . . . . .	5.00	Joseph F. Wiggin, . . . . .	5.00
L. D. Shaw, . . . . .	5.00	John E. Farnham, . . . . .	2.00
A. Selwyn Lynde, . . . . .	5.00	Francis A. Shove, . . . . .	2.00
C. W. Higgins, . . . . .	5.00	Thomas R. Howard, . . . . .	5.00
John Larrabee, . . . . .	5.00	John Langdon Sullivan, . . . . .	5.00
J. N. Lombard, . . . . .	5.00	Arthur H. Wellman, . . . . .	2.00
E. L. Whittier, . . . . .	5.00	Ezra A. Stevens, Jr., . . . . .	2.00
William Steers, . . . . .	5.00	Henry Barrett, . . . . .	10.00
D. Webster Dow, . . . . .	5.00	Harry H. Barrett, . . . . .	10.00
Walter I. Nickerson, . . . . .	1.00	Quincy E. Dickerman, . . . . .	5.00

Of the amount received from the above subscriptions for the Virginia Wood Fund, one hundred and seven dollars (\$107) were included in last year's account ; but it has seemed best to publish in one complete list the names of all who have contributed to the fund, either last year or this.

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The undersigned have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Treasurer of the Trustees of Public Reservations for the year 1892, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

CHARLES S. RACKEMANN,  
JAMES S. GRINNELL,  
*Auditing Committee.*

BOSTON, Jan. 2, 1893.



## APPENDIX I.

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### CIRCULARS ISSUED BY THE PRELIMINARY COMMITTEES AND BY THE TRUSTEES.

No. 1. Addressed in May, 1890, to Numerous Persons throughout the State.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB,  
9 PARK STREET, BOSTON, 10th May, 1890.

*Dear Sir,*—At a meeting of the Council of the APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB held on Wednesday, April 2, 1890, it was unanimously—

*Voted,* That Messrs. ELIOT, MANN, and LAWRENCE be a committee to call a meeting of persons interested in the preservation of scenery and historical sites in Massachusetts.

In accordance with this vote, you are hereby invited, with friends who may be interested in the subject, to take part in a conference to be held in Boston, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boylston Street, at 12 o'clock, on Saturday, May 24, 1890. Hon. Henry H. Sprague will preside, and among those who will either attend the meeting, or send letters, are Governor Brackett, Gen. Francis A. Walker, Dr. O. W. Holmes, Col. T. W. Higginson, Mr. Francis Parkman, and Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted.

Please use the enclosed postal-card to inform the committee whether or not they may expect you.

You are also requested to examine and consider the statements and proposals of the circular which accompanies this letter; and, if you cannot attend the conference, you are respectfully urged to communicate your opinions and suggestions in writing to CHARLES ELIOT, 50 State Street, Boston, before the day of the meeting.

Yours truly,

CHARLES ELIOT,  
GEORGE C. MANN,  
ROSEWELL B. LAWRENCE,

*Committee of Council of A. M. C.*

## AN OUTLINE OF A SCHEME

*For Facilitating the Preservation and Dedication to Public Enjoyment of such Scenes and Sites in Massachusetts as possess either Uncommon Beauty or Historical Interest.*

There is no need of argument to prove that opportunities for beholding the beauty of Nature are of great importance to the health and happiness of crowded populations. As respects large masses of the population of Massachusetts, these opportunities are rapidly vanishing. Many remarkable natural scenes near Boston have been despoiled of their beauty during the last few years. Similar spots near other cities of the Commonwealth have likewise suffered. Throughout the State scenes which future generations of townspeople would certainly prize for their refreshing power are to-day in danger of destruction. Unless some steps towards their effectual protection can be taken quickly, the beauty of these spots will have disappeared, the opportunity for generous action will have passed.

Scattered throughout the State are other places made interesting and valuable by historical or literary associations; and many of these also are in danger.

What public or private, general or local, action in aid of the preservation of fine natural scenes and historical sites will it be best to attempt under existing circumstances in Massachusetts? This is the problem which will be the subject of debate at the conference called by the Council of the Appalachian Mountain Club; and it is only for the purpose of provoking discussion that the Committee which has been authorized to call the meeting makes the following proposals:—

1. The establishment of a Board of Trustees to be appointed as follows: Some to be named in the act of incorporation: their successors to be elected by the full Board as vacancies occur. Some to be named by the governing bodies of several designated incorporated societies, such as the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Essex Institute, the Appalachian Mountain Club, etc. Some to be appointed by the Governor and Council.

2. The Trustees to be empowered to acquire by gift from individuals, or bodies of subscribers, parcels of real estate possessing natural beauty or historical interest, and to hold the same, together with funds for the maintenance thereof, free of all taxes.

3. The Trustees to be required to open to the public, under suitable

regulations, all such parcels of their real estate as lie within the limits of those towns and cities which may provide police protection for the same.

4. The Trustees to be prohibited from conveying real estate once accepted by them, except to towns and cities for public uses.

In order to effect the creation of this proposed Board of Trustees, the Committee suggests:—

5. The appointment by the meeting of May 24 of a Standing Committee of twenty-five, to be provided by the meeting with a working fund, and empowered—

*a.* To draft and present to the General Court at its next session an act of incorporation.

*b.* To correspond with societies and individuals for the purpose of deciding upon two or three parcels of suitable real estate which, with endowments for maintenance, may be offered to the Trustees immediately upon their incorporation.

*c.* To secure subscriptions to an endowment fund with the income of which the Trustees may meet their general expenses.

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**No. 2. Printed Large for Use as a Poster, and sent in the Summer of 1890 to the Hotels and Post-offices of the State.**

[PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY.]

## THE PRESERVATION OF BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORICAL PLACES IN MASSACHUSETTS.

On May 24, 1890, a conference of persons interested in the preservation of scenery and historical sites was held in Boston at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. President Henry H. Sprague, of the State Senate, presided. Suggestive speeches were made by the Hon. Leverett Saltonstall, Judge William S. Shurtleff, Professor C. E. Norton, Mr. J. B. Harrison, and others; and letters from Governor Brackett, Dr. Holmes, Mr. Whittier, and many others, were read. The Conference created a Committee to promote the preservation of beautiful and historical sites in Massachusetts, and this Committee now issues the following

### CIRCULAR.

The fundamental facts of the subject with which the Committee has to deal are two, namely:—

1st. It is the self-interest of the Commonwealth to preserve, for the enjoyment of her people and their guests, all her finest scenes of natural beauty and all her places of historical interest.



2d. Private ownership of such scenes and places now prevails, so that not only is the public completely barred out from many especially refreshing and interesting spots, but these valuable places are often robbed of their beauty or interest for some small private gain.

The problem calls for intelligent action on the part of the Legislature and generous action on the part of private citizens. The Committee will ask the Legislature to act for the best interests of the Commonwealth by establishing a Board of Trustees, capable of holding lands for the use and enjoyment of the public; and the Committee will ask the owners of lands, and the possessors of money which can buy or maintain lands, to endow the Trustees with suitable lands and considerable funds immediately upon their incorporation. With the fostering approval of the Legislature, the large and small gifts of enlightened citizens have provided Massachusetts with colleges, libraries, art museums, and hospitals. When the State shall have established the necessary organization, gifts of beautiful and interesting places and sites may be confidently expected; for no nobler use of wealth can be imagined.

Judge William S. Shurtleff of Springfield, Hon. Henry L. Parker of Worcester, and Moses Williams, Esq., of Brookline, have been appointed a Sub-committee on Legislation. The establishment of an advisory Board, in addition to the Board of Trustees, will probably be recommended to the Legislature, its members to be elected as Delegates from existing incorporated associations. The State possesses many thriving historical and out-of-doors societies, and they will be called upon to unite in establishing and assisting a Board of Trustees which shall be capable of holding property valuable to one and all. Such acts of the Trustees as involve the assumption of permanent trusts will come before this Board of Delegates for confirmation.

The Committee desires to hear from the officers of all societies which may wish to send Delegates to the proposed Board, and also from the officers or members of any societies which may see fit to assist the Committee by adopting resolutions favoring the establishment of the proposed Board of Trustees for public places.

The Committee hopes to be informed of all movements now on foot looking to the opening to the public of any beautiful or historical places, as also of all lands which it may be desirable and possible to obtain for the proposed Trustees. Letters may be addressed to the nearest member of the Committee, or to the Secretary, Charles Eliot, 50 State Street, Boston.

Lastly, the Committee requests all persons who may feel interested in this attempt to facilitate the preservation of natural scenery and of historical memorials to send contributions for this purpose to the Treasurer of the Committee, George Wigglesworth, Esq., 89 State Street, Boston. If the working fund can be made large enough, the work of the Committee can go on prosperously, otherwise it must languish.



## COMMITTEE.

FRANCIS A. WALKER, Boston.  
 SARAH H. CROCKER, Boston.  
 MARION TALBOT, Boston.  
 WM. C. BURRAGE, Boston.  
 C. S. RACKEMANN, Milton.  
 GEORGE C. MANN, Jamaica Plain.  
 L. SALTONSTALL, Chestnut Hill.  
 F. L. OLNSTED, Brookline.  
 C. S. SARGENT, Brookline.  
 MOSES WILLIAMS, Brookline.  
 SYLVESTER BAXTER, Malden.  
 ELIZABETH HOWE, Cambridge.  
 WM. S. SHURTLEFF, Springfield.

JOSEPH TUCKER, Pittsfield.  
 CHRISTOPHER CLARKE, Northampton.  
 RICHARD GOODMAN, Lenox.  
 FRANKLIN CARTER, Williamstown.  
 GEORGE SHELDON, Deerfield.  
 HENRY M. DEXTER, New Bedford.  
 HENRY M. LOVERING, Taunton.  
 GEORGE R. BRIGGS, Plymouth.  
 J. EVARTS GREENE, Worcester.  
 HENRY L. PARKER, Worcester.  
 PHILIP A. CHASE, Lynn.  
 W. C. ENDICOTT, Jr., Salem.

HENRY P. WALCOTT, Cambridge, *Chairman*.

GEORGE WIGGLESWORTH, Boston,

*Treasurer.*

CHARLES ELIOT, Boston,

*Secretary.*

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No. 3. Issued in the Autumn of 1890.

## THE PRESERVATION OF BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORICAL PLACES.

The following pages contain in briefest form (1) the reasons for making numerous public reservations, (2) the methods by which such reservations have been made, (3) the special reasons for the establishment of the proposed "Trustees of Public Reservations."

### I.

Places of historical interest or remarkable beauty should be withdrawn from private ownership, preserved from harm, and opened to the public for the following reasons:

Because it is eminently true that

"where great deeds were done,  
 A power abides transfused from sire to son."

Because the contemplation of natural beauty is found to refresh the tired spirits of townspeople as nothing else can.

Because the visitation of such places educates the people in the love of nature, of beauty, and of native land.

Because the private ownership of such places deprives the people of a source of education and refreshment which they need to enjoy.

Because the private ownership of such places usually results in the destruction of that special beauty or interest in which their value to the Commonwealth consists.

Because the public ownership of such places means not only enjoyment and enlightenment for the people, but also, by reason of their attractiveness, an increased resort of visitors, and a corresponding in-

crease of wealth in the neighborhood of the reservations, and throughout the State.

## II.

Public reservations in the United States have been established (1) by National action, (2) by State action, (3) by Municipal action, and (4) by private action.

(1) The following are examples of National reservations :

The *Yellowstone National Park*: 3,000 square miles of the public domain *reserved* from sale and settlement.

The *Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park*: 7,600 acres of private land condemned and *purchased*.

The *approaches to the Chickamauga Park*: 26 miles of highway accepted by the Nation as a *gift* from the States of Virginia and Tennessee.

(2) The following are examples of State reservations :

The *New York State Forest Reserve* in the Adirondack Mountains: many thousands of acres of the State domain *reserved* from sale and settlement.

The *New York State Reservation at Niagara*: about 100 acres of private land condemned and *purchased*.

The *Connecticut State Reservation* in the townships of Bethel and Redding (The Putnam Memorial Camp): 38 acres, accepted by the State as a *gift* from two citizens.

(3) The following are examples of Municipal reservations :

*Boston Common*: *reserved* from sale and settlement by the first Colonists.

*Franklin Park*, Boston: condemned and *purchased* by the City.

*Institute Park*, Worcester: accepted by the City as a *gift* from a citizen.

(4) The following are examples of reservations secured by private persons, with the approval of various Legislatures:

The *Mt. Vernon Estate*, in Virginia: the property of a Corporation, which is exempted from taxation.

The *Serpent Mound Park*, in Ohio: the gift of a few persons to the Trustees of the Peabody Museum at Harvard University. The Park is open to the public, and it is not taxed.

The *Chittenango Falls Park* in the townships of Cazenovia and Fenner, New York: the gift of several citizens to an incorporated Board of Trustees, who are required to keep the Park open to the public forever.

The *Old South Church*, in Boston: presented by a large body of subscribers to an incorporated Board of Trustees, who hold it as a memorial, exempt from taxation.

The *Longfellow Memorial Garden*, in Cambridge, Massachusetts

presented by the Longfellow family to an incorporated Board of Trustees, whose property is exempted from taxation.

### III.

It is proposed to establish in Massachusetts a corporation to be called the "Trustees of Public Reservations." It is proposed to give these Trustees the power to acquire, by gift or purchase, beautiful or historical places in any part of the State, to arrange with cities and towns for the necessary policing of the reservations so acquired, and to open the reservations to the public when such arrangements have been made. This Board of Trustees should be established without further delay, and for the following reasons:

(1) Because the existing means of securing and preserving public reservations are not sufficiently effective. Every year sees the exclusion of the public from more and more scenes of interest and beauty, and every year sees the irreparable destruction of others.

(2) Because, if it is desirable to supplement the existing means of securing and preserving the scenes in question, no method can be found which will more surely serve the desired end than that by means of which Massachusetts has established her successful hospitals, colleges, and art museums; namely, the method which consists in setting up a respected Board of Trustees, and leaving all the rest to the munificence of public-spirited men and women. When the necessary organization is provided, the lovers of Nature and History will rally to endow the Trustees with the care of their favorite scenes, precisely as the lovers of Art have so liberally endowed the Art Museums.

(3) Because a general Board of Trustees, established with power to accept or reject whatever property may be offered it in any part of the State, will be able to act for the benefit of the whole people, and without regard to the principal cause of the ineffectiveness of present methods: namely, the local jealousies felt by townships and parts of townships towards each other.

(4) Because the beautiful and historical Commonwealth of Massachusetts can no longer afford to refrain from applying to the preservation of her remarkable places every method which experience in other fields has approved. The State is rapidly losing her great opportunity to insure for the future an important source of material as well as moral prosperity.

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**No. 4. Sent out upon the Organization of the Board in July, 1891, Together with a Copy of the Act of Incorporation and a List of the Officers and Members of the Board.**

The Trustees invite the co-operation of the public-spirited men and women of Massachusetts in promoting popular interest in the preservation of the beautiful and historical places of the State.

They desire to obtain information regarding existing public reservations of all kinds, their number, character, and locality, and the titles and conditions under which they are held. They also invite suggestions relating to places which it may be thought desirable to preserve for public use, either on account of historic interest or the beauty of the local scenery. In order to acquire this information as soon as possible they have appointed a salaried agent, Mr. J. B. Harrison, who will travel throughout the State, and for whom the Trustees bespeak every assistance.

There is need of more complete recognition of the conditions which will soon result from the increasing density of the population of our country and its concentration in cities and towns. There is need, too, that the value of historical and literary memorials be recognized before they are injured or destroyed. Accordingly, the trustees request all persons who are already interested in any part of the broad field of their endeavors—all persons and societies interested in scenery, in natural history, in history, in public health, and in the common weal in general—to unite in assisting the work of the Board by corresponding with the secretary or agent, and by becoming subscribers to the working fund.

Copies of the By-laws will be sent by the secretary to any address. Section 3 reads as follows:

#### OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS.

The Annual Subscribers shall be such persons and such societies or corporations as may pay annually into the treasury of the corporation the sum of ten dollars or more.

The Annual Subscribers shall each be entitled to receive a copy of the annual reports of the secretary and treasurer of the corporation.

The Annual Subscribers shall also be invited to the annual conference with the Associates. Each subscribing society or corporation shall be invited to send to the conference one representative for every ten dollars subscribed.

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No. 5. Printed with the Seal and the Names of the Officers at the Head of a Broad Sheet, and sent in August, 1892, to the Newspapers, Public Libraries, Post-offices, and Hotels of the State.

BOSTON, August 1, 1892.

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In your part of Massachusetts are there any beautiful beaches, bluffs, hill-tops, ravines, groves, river-banks, or roadsides?

Would it not be well to secure for the public the most interesting of these places before their beauty is destroyed or they become fenced in for private gain or pleasure?

Owners of such places, by giving them into the keeping of the Trus-

tees of Public Reservations, will enhance the value of adjacent real estate. Neighbors of such places, by giving them into the charge of the Trustees, may profitably increase the attractiveness of their district. Men and women of Massachusetts who have gained wealth within or without her borders can find no more acceptable way of benefiting their native land than by dedicating one or more of her places of beauty to the enjoyment of all forever.

The Trustees of Public Reservations have been chartered by the Commonwealth expressly to provide the admirers of any beautiful or historical spot in Massachusetts with a ready instrument for making that spot a reservation and for insuring its perpetual care. Whoever gives land or contributes money, whether for the purchase or the maintenance of any particular reservation, or for the general purposes of the Trustees, receives the annual report and is enrolled in the Board's books in accordance with the following By-law:—

#### OF FOUNDERS, LIFE ASSOCIATES AND CONTRIBUTORS.

All persons from whom the corporation shall receive real or personal property to the value of one thousand dollars or more shall be permanently enrolled as Founders.

All persons not entitled to be enrolled as Founders, from whom the corporation shall receive real or personal property to the value of one hundred dollars or more, shall be enrolled during life as Life Associates.

All persons, societies, or corporations not entitled to be enrolled as Founders or Life Associates, from whom the corporation shall receive one or more dollars, shall be enrolled as Contributors for the year in which payment of such sum is made.

Two Founders, twenty Life Associates, and two hundred Contributors are already enrolled.

A copy of the first report of the Trustees, published in March, 1892, will be sent to any address upon request; and several copies of the next report will be sent to all who will aid the work of the Board by writing for publication in the report a clear account of the present extent and character of the public open spaces and public resorts of some portion of the State, the local opportunities for securing new reservations, and the advantages to be derived from the opening of the same.

Please address all correspondence to

CHARLES ELIOT, *Secretary*,

50 State Street, Room 50, Boston.





## APPENDIX II.

### STATISTICS OF THE PUBLIC OPEN SPACES OF MASSACHUSETTS.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
726 EXCHANGE BUILDING, BOSTON,  
1 December, 1892.

*My dear Sir,*—Will you kindly fill out, or cause to be filled out, the following blank, which should be mailed to me as soon as possible? Our annual report goes to press January 1. Please do not allow your city or town to be entered as not heard from.

Yours truly,

CHARLES ELIOT, *Secretary.*

City or Town of .....

Names of permanently public open spaces, available for public recreation, and owned by towns or cities, or held in trust for public use; <i>e.g.</i> , public landings, commons, water supply reservations, parks, squares, and the like.	Approximate Acreage.	By What Body controlled or maintained.	Notes on Origin, First Cost, or Other Information.

*Please continue on another Sheet.*

The information kindly furnished in response to the foregoing letter is embodied in the following alphabetical list of the cities and towns of Massachusetts.

The figures which follow the names of cities and towns give the population of each in 1890.

After the name of each open space appear its area and an abbreviated statement indicating whether the title lies in the city or town or in some other body.

Corrections and additions are earnestly desired.

**ABINGTON.** 4,260. ISLAND GROVE PARK. 15 acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners. Bought in 1882 for \$3,200.

"A public reservation upon which Nature has profusely lavished her charms. The grove of pines is nearly surrounded by Island Grove Pond, beyond which is the business centre of the town. With its matchless beauty, its tender and joyous memories, and its historical associations, the Park is among the most prized and cherished public institutions of Abington."

**ACTON.** 1,897. THE COMMON. 4 acres. Town. Purchased and given to the town for a common about 1807.

**ACUSHNET.** 1,027. None.

**ADAMS.** 9,213. Not heard from.

**AGAWAM.** 2,352. TRAINING-FIELD. 149 square rods. Bought for \$125 in 1798, and deeded to 45 men, their heirs and assigns. Title is in the heirs. By act of Legislature, 1875, leave was obtained to enclose and grade the field. The town has lately delegated the same right to a "Park Association." The field has been fenced and graded, but is neglected.

**ALFORD.** 297. None.

**AMESBURY.** 9,798. Not heard from.

**AMHERST.** 4,512. THE COMMON. 10 acres. Town. In charge of a Village Improvement Association, and well kept.

The pleasant grounds of Amherst College afford additional semi-public promenades.

**ANDOVER.** 6,142. INDIAN RIDGE. 9 acres. Town. Cost \$3,500 in 1883. Town gravel bank at one corner.

CARMEL HILL. 6 acres. Town. Cost about \$150 in 1851.

PUMPING STATION LAND. 3 acres. Town. Cost \$800 in 1890.

RESERVOIR LAND. 3½ acres. Town. Cost \$1,300 in 1892.

ELM SQUARE. 1 acre. Town.

SO. CHURCH SQUARE. ½ acre. Town.

THE COMMON. 2 acres. Town.

All of the academy and seminary land on "The Hill" is practically a public park. About 200 acres. Main Street is 200 feet wide through the "Hill" lands.

**ASHBURNHAM.** 2,074. THE COMMON. 2 acres. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors of the township.

**ASHBY.** 825. THE COMMON. 4 acres. Town. A gift.

**ASHFIELD.** 1,025. ACADEMY PLAYGROUND. About 4 acres. Trustees of Sanderson Academy. The gift of the late John W. Field.

**ASHLAND.** 2,532. Not heard from.

**ATHOL.** 6,319. Not heard from.



- ATTLEBOROUGH.** 7,577. **THE COMMON.** 1 acre. Board of Trustees chosen by Fire District No. 1. Belonged formerly to the Congregational church. Bought for \$1,000, obtained by subscription, and given by the purchasers to Fire District No. 1.
- AUBURN.** 1,532. **THE COMMON.**  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. "Bought by the town about 1783 for \$150. In 1892 a man in his eightieth year voluntarily graded the land, made walks, and planted rose bushes."
- AVON.** 1,384. Not heard from.
- AYER.** 2,148. Not heard from.
- BARNSTABLE.** 4,023. Town Landings in the villages of Osterville, Cotuit, Centreville, Hyannis, and Barnstable. Owned by the town.
- BARRE.** 2,239. **NORTH PARK.** 5 acres. Town. Fine shade-trees, gravel walks, and soldiers' monument. Fenced off from the Common.  
**SOUTH PARK.** 3 acres. Town. Trees, flower-beds, seats. Fenced off from the Common.  
**THE COMMON.** 15 acres. Town. Unenclosed, between the two parks. Shade-trees, concrete walks, flower-beds, band-stand, shady seats, and tennis ground. In the centre of the village, 1,400 feet above sea-level.
- BECKET.** 946. Not heard from.
- BEDFORD.** 1,092. **THE COMMON.** 3 acres. The town and the First Parish are at law about the ownership. The place was laid out at the time of the incorporation of the town in 1729. It is a square at the town centre.  
**WILSON PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. A triangle set apart and dedicated to the memory of Captain Jonathan Wilson, who marshalled the minute-men on this spot before marching to Concord fight, where he was killed.  
 Mr. Dudley L. Pickman of this town permits the public to visit the "Brother Rocks," two large boulders on the east bank of Concord River, in beautiful scenery, where Governor Winthrop and Lieutenant Governor Dudley selected their farms in 1638.
- BELCHERTOWN.** 2,120. **THE PARK.** 3 acres. Town. In charge of a Park Association. Part of the land was given by Jonathan Dwight, and a part by Elijah Dwight, on conditions.
- BELLINGHAM.** 1,334. **THE COMMON.** 1 acre. Town. The gift of Daniel Jones in 1800 for a town-house site.
- BELMONT.** 2,098. **THE PARK.**  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners. Bought by the town in 1881 for \$6,000. One-half of this amount was raised by subscription, the balance appropriated by the town. A well-kept garden lying between a stone church and the railroad station.
- BERKLEY.** 894. **THE COMMON.** 9 acres. Town. "Given to the town by a man of the name of Gilbert about one hundred years ago; now neglected, and cattle roam over it at will."

**BERLIN.** 844. **THE COMMON.**  $1\frac{3}{4}$  acres. The Congregational Society. The gift of Samuel Jones about 1784 for a common and site for a church.

**POWDER-HOUSE HILL.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. "An ancient powder-house stands on this land, which was a gift from Rev. William A. Houghton about 1882."

**BERNARDSTON.** 770. **CUSHMAN PARK.**  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. In charge of the so-called Cushman Hall Committee, a body composed of representatives of the Trustees of the Powers Institute and the Cushman Library. The gift of Hon. H. W. Cushman.

**BILLERICA.** 2,381. Not heard from.

**BLACKSTONE.** 6,138. Not heard from.

**BLANDFORD.** 871. Not heard from.

**BOLTON.** 827. Not heard from.

**BOSTON.** 448,744.

The following open spaces are owned by the city, and managed by a Park Commission :—

	Acres.		Acres.
The Parkway, . . . . .	378	Franklin Field, . . . . .	77
Arnold Arboretum, . . . . .	172	Dorchester Park, . . . . .	26
Franklin Park, . . . . .	520	Charlestown Playground, . . . . .	10
Marine Park, . . . . .	55	Charlesbank, . . . . .	14
Wood Island Park, . . . . .	46	Charlestown Heights, . . . . .	4
Total area, 1,302 acres.			

The following spaces are owned by the city, and managed by the Department of Public Grounds :—

#### CITY PROPER.

	Sq. feet.		Sq. feet.
Common, . . . . .	$48\frac{2}{5}$ acres	Greenwich Park, . . . . .	4,100
Public Garden, . . . . .	$24\frac{1}{2}$ acres	Commonwealth Avenue, . . . . .	429,500
Fort Hill Square, . . . . .	29,480	Union Park, . . . . .	16,000
Franklin Square, . . . . .	105,205	Worcester Square, . . . . .	16,000
Blackstone Square, . . . . .	105,100	Lowell Square, . . . . .	5,772
East Chester Park, . . . . .	9,300	Park Square, . . . . .	2,867
Chester Park, . . . . .	13,050	Montgomery Square, . . . . .	550
Chester Square, . . . . .	74,000	Pemberton Square, . . . . .	3,390
West Chester Park, . . . . .	10,150	Copley Square, . . . . .	28,399
Concord Square, . . . . .	5,000	Copley Square, . . . . .	5,410
Rutland Square, . . . . .	7,400	City Hall Grounds, . . . . .	7,700
Berwick Park, . . . . .	3,800		

#### SOUTH BOSTON.

Telegraph Hill, . . . . .	190,000	Lincoln Square, . . . . .	9,510
Independence Sq., $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres			

## EAST BOSTON.

	Sq. Feet.		Sq. Feet.
Maverick Square, . . . .	4,398	Putnam Square, . . . .	11,628
Central Square, . . . .	32,310	Prescott Square, . . . .	12,284
Belmont Square, . . . .	30,000		

## ROXBURY DISTRICT.

Madison Square, . . . .	122,191	Cedar Square, . . . .	26,163
Orchard Park, . . . .	99,592	Linwood Park, . . . .	3,625
Washington Park, . . . .	396,125	Public Ground, . . . .	3,200
Longwood Park, . . . .	21,000	Highland Park, . . . .	114,065
Walnut Park, . . . .	5,736	Public Ground, . . . .	1,380
Lewis Park, . . . .	5,600	Public Ground, . . . .	1,662
Bromley Park, . . . .	20,975	Playground, . . . .	25,000
Fountain Square, . . . .	116,000		

## DORCHESTER DISTRICT.

Dorchester Square, . . . .	56,200	Richardson Square, . . . .	75,982
Eaton Square, . . . .	13,280	Public Ground, . . . .	3,605
Mt. Bowdoin Green, . . . .	25,170	Public Ground, . . . .	274,000

## CHARLESTOWN DISTRICT.

City Square, . . . .	8,739	Winthrop Square, . . . .	38,450
Public Ground, . . . .	3,055	Public Ground, . . . .	930
Sullivan Square, . . . .	56,428		

## WEST ROXBURY DISTRICT.

Public Ground, . . . .	31,000	Public Ground, . . . .	27,772
Soldiers' Monuments Lots, .	5,870		

## BRIGHTON DISTRICT.

Public Ground, . . . .	1,900	Franklin Square, . . . .	1,900
Jackson Square . . . .	4,300	Rogers Park, . . . .	7 acres
Brighton Square, . . . .	25,035	Roxbury Canal Lands, . .	130,493

**BOURNE.** 1,442. None.

**BOXBOROUGH.** 325. THE COMMON. About 1 acre. Town.

**BOXFORD.** 865. Not heard from.

**BOYLSTON.** 770. THE COMMON. About 5 acres. Town and First Parish. First portion, including old cemetery, was purchased by the North Precinct of Shrewsbury in 1774 for £15, old tenor. Second portion by the town in 1792. Third portion by the town in 1794 for £8.

**BRADFORD.** 3,720. THE COMMON. About 1 acre. First Congregational Society. A gift to the society on condition that it be kept as a Common.

**BRAINTREE.** 4,848. FRENCH'S COMMON. 5½ acres. Town. The gift of Josiah French about 1857.

**BREWSTER.** 1,003. **THE GREEN.** 1 acre. First Congregational Society.

**BRIMFIELD.** 1,096. **THE COMMON.** 3 acres. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors of the township.

**SOLDIERS' MONUMENT PARK.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town. Purchased by the town.

**BROCKTON.** 27,294. **PERKINS PARK.**  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. City. A gift.

**BROOKFIELD.** 3,352. **BANISTER COMMON.** About 5 acres. Town. The gift of Colonel Seth Banister for a training field.

**BROOKLINE.** 12,103. **PARK.** 36.6 acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners.

**CYPRESS STREET PLAYGROUND.** 228,670 square feet. Town.

**BROOKLINE AVENUE PLAYGROUND.** 166,899 square feet. Town.

**DAVIS LOT.** 67,179 square feet. Town.

**THOMAS LOT.** 3.9 acres. Town.

**PUMPING STATION LOT.** 208,244 square feet. Town.

**WATER RESERVE.** About 250 acres. For the protection of the source of supply in Needham and Dedham.

**BUCKLAND.** 1,570. Not heard from.

**BURLINGTON.** 671. Not heard from.

**CAMBRIDGE.** 70,028.

The following open spaces are owned by the city, and managed by a committee of the City Council:—

**CAMBRIDGE COMMON.** 10.59 acres.

**WINTHROP SQUARE.** .23 acre.

**ARSENAL SQUARE.** .07 acre.

**BROADWAY COMMON.** 2.46 acres.

**WASHINGTON SQUARE.** .97 acre.

**HASTINGS SQUARE.** .69 acre.

**DANA SQUARE.** .77 acre.

**RIVER STREET SQUARE.** .04 acre.

In addition, there is **FRESH POND PARK.** Land, 158.32 acres; water, 166.47. Controlled by the Water Board. "A broad driveway encircles this handsome sheet of water."

**THE ESPLANADE.** Nearly a mile of the bank of Charles River, dedicated to the public as a promenade by the Charles River Embankment Company.

**THE LONGFELLOW MEMORIAL GARDEN.** 1 acre. The Longfellow Memorial Association. A plot in front of the poet's house. The gift of his children.

The grounds of Harvard University form a large, semi-public, open space.

**CANTON.** 4,538. Not heard from.

**CARLISLE.** 481. None.

**CARVER.** 994. **TRAINING-FIELD.** 2 acres. Town.

**CHARLEMONT.** 972. None.

**CHARLTON.** 1,847. Not heard from.

**CHATHAM.** 1,954. None.

"Everybody and his friends goes to the sea beaches for amusement. Most of the beaches are used as common property, though the town probably would claim all not held by individuals. The beaches are very attractive to summer visitors."

**CHELMSFORD.** 2,694. **THE COMMON.**  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. Set apart in the early days of the town. Upon it stands a monument to the soldiers of the Revolution.

**THREE SMALL ENCLOSURES.** Total, 1 acre. Town. In charge of Village Improvement Society.

**CHELSEA.** 27,909. **UNION PARK.** 3 acres. City. Cost about \$12,000, received from George W. Gerrish as a compromise settlement for unpaid taxes on his property in this city, which for some informality in title could not be sold for taxes.

**WASHINGTON PARK.**  $1\frac{3}{8}$  acres. City. A part of the "Poor Farm Estate," so called, enclosed by the city for a park when the balance of the estate was sold.

**CHESHIRE.** 1,308. **THE COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. The gift of Captain Daniel Brown.

**CHESTER.** 1,295. Not heard from.

**CHESTERFIELD.** 608. None. "We do all we can to make the road-sides look well."

**CHICOPEE.** 14,050.

The following open spaces are the property of the city, and they are managed by the Highway Committee of the city government:—

**THE COMMON.** 2 acres. Donated to the town when streets were first, laid out. \$6,000 has been recently spent in grading, planting trees, etc.

**BULLEN'S PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. About \$1,000 has been recently spent in improvements. "Located at the pointed intersection of two busy streets and shaded by large maple-trees, forty or more years old; an admirable resting-place."

**CHILMARK.** 353. Not heard from.

**CLARKSBURG.** 884. None.

**CLINTON.** 10,424. Not heard from.

**COHASSET.** 2,448. **COMMON.** About 4 acres. Town and First Parish.

**COLERAIN.** 1,671. None.

**CONCORD.** 4,427. Not heard from.

**CONWAY.** 1,451. Not heard from.

**COTTAGE CITY.** 1,080. OCEAN PARK. 2 acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners.

HARTFORD PARK. 1 acre. Town.

PENACOOK PARK.  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town.

NIANTIC PARK.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acres. Town.

HIAWATHA PARK.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town.

WABAN PARK.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town.

NAUSHON PARK.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town.

PETTULUMA PARK.  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Town.

These spaces were laid out on the original plan of this summer city, and decided by the Supreme Court to be forever open to the public.

**CUMMINGTON.** 787. Not heard from.

**DALTON.** 2,885. None. Two fine private parks are open to the public.

**DANA.** 700. None.

**DANVERS.** 7,454. Not heard from.

**DARTMOUTH.** 3,122. Not heard from.

**DEDHAM.** 7,123. Not heard from.

**DEERFIELD.** 2,910. Not heard from.

**DENNIS.** 2,899. OLD WHALING GROUND. Belongs jointly to the towns of Dennis and Yarmouth, as it was a common or town possession when the two towns were one.

**DIGHTON.** 1,889. LOWER PUBLIC LANDING.  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors.

ZEBULON LANDING.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors.

These are landings on Taunton River.

**DOUGLASS.** 1,908. Not heard from.

**DOVER.** 727. THE COMMON. 3 acres. Town. Three years ago the town graded and laid out gravel walks at an expense of \$2,000.

Conveyed to the selectmen of 1793 and their successors by Henry Tisdale and Sarah, his wife, "to remain for and be improved as a common for public uses for the inhabitants of said Dover."

**DRACUT.** 1,996. Not heard from.

**DUDLEY.** 2,944. Not heard from.

**DUNSTABLE.** 416. THE COMMON.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acres. Town. Cost £9 in 1790  
THE RESERVOIR.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. Cost, including laying of pipe-stone fountain, etc., about \$2,500.

**DUXBURY.** 1,908. TOWN-HOUSE LOT.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre.

FIVE TOWN LANDINGS.

**E. BRIDGEWATER.** 2,911. Not heard from.

**EASTHAM.** 602. None.



**EASTHAMPTON.** 4,395. **THE PARK.** 1 acre. Town. Once occupied by the only church.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY GROUNDS.** 1 acre. Library Association. A gift to the association.

**EASTON.** 4,493. None.

**EDGARTOWN.** 1,156. None.

**EGREMONT.** 845. None.

**ENFIELD.** 952. None.

**ESSEX.** 1,713. Part of the town farm is used as a picnic-ground, and a part is leased in lots to cottagers. The farm lies on Essex River, and commands fine views of the marshes and the sea.

**THREE PUBLIC LANDINGS:** two leased to ship-yards.

**EVERETT.** 11,068. None.

**EWING.** 972. Not heard from.

**FAIRHAVEN.** 2,919. **FORT PHŒNIX.** The United States. Managed as a public resort by the Fairhaven Improvement Association.

**FALL RIVER.** 74,398.

The following open spaces are the property of the city:—

**NORTH PARK.** About 20 acres.

**SOUTH PARK.** 60 acres.

**PUBLIC BATHING-PLACE.** Not in good condition.

**FALMOUTH.** 2,567. **TOWN LANDING.** Not much used.

**FITCHBURG.** 22,037.

The following small spaces are owned by the city:—

**UPPER COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre.

**LOWER COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Beside the railroad station. "Flanked by hacks on one side and teamsters' carts on the other."

**MONUMENT SQUARE.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. "A treeless waste, with a soldiers' monument in the centre."

**FLORIDA.** 436. None.

**FOXBOROUGH.** 2,933. **THE COMMON.** 4 acres. Town. The gift of Nehemiah Carpenter and Jeremiah Hartshorn, 1783. "Improved and laid out anew in 1857, enclosed by an iron fence and granite posts. Walks bordered with fine maple and elm trees. Said to be one of the most beautiful commons in this part of the State."

**FRAMINGHAM.** 9,239. **CENTRE COMMON.** 4 acres. Town. Laid out in 1735 for a meeting-house site and training-field. "In this year William Pike sold for £14 to Joseph Buckminster, Isaac Clark, John Gleason, Jeremiah Pike, Jr., and Caleb Bridges, in trust for the whole town of Framingham, four acres."

**SOUTH FRAMINGHAM COMMON.** 18,584 square feet. Town. The gift of Lovell Eames in 1854, "to be held for a common forever."



**FRANKLIN.** 4,831. **THE COMMON.** 4 acres. Town. Originally the property of the First Congregational Society. Purchased by the town about 1870 for \$1,500.

**THE PARK.** 3 acres. Town. The gift of Monroe Morse and Sally Metcalf in 1879.

**FREETOWN.** 1,417. **ELMS STREET PARK.** 1 acre. Town. The gift of Dr. Campfield.

**FORGE LANDING.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. Bought by the town.

**GARDNER.** 8,424. None.

**GAY HEAD.** 139. **GAY HEAD CLIFFS.** Town. "The cliffs present all the colors of the rainbow, and attract thousands of people every summer." The town is under no obligation to preserve the cliffs, and has indeed allowed clays to be mined for commercial purposes. The headland is the most interesting and extraordinary on the whole coast of New England.

**SEVERAL WILD CRANBERRY BOGS.** Town.

**GEORGETOWN.** 2,117. **CENTRAL PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. Soldiers' monument and trees.

**UNION PARK.** 1 acre. Town.

**LINCOLN PARK.** 2 acres. Abutters.

**CHURCH SQUARE.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town.

**NORTH SQUARE.** 1 acre. Town.

**SOUTH PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town.

**WARREN SQUARE.** 2 acres. Town.

**MARLBOROUGH SQUARE.** 1 acre. Town.

**RAILROAD SQUARE.** 4 acres. B. & M. R.R. Partially graded.

"These public spaces are being improved from year to year, and are all creations of the last forty years."

**GILL.** 960. None.

**GLOUCESTER.** 24,651. None.

**GOSHEN.** 297. **THE COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. First Congregational Society.

**GOSNOLD.** 135. Not heard from.

**GRAFTON.** 5,002. Not heard from.

**GRANBY.** 765. None.

**GRANVILLE.** 1,061. None.

**GREAT BARRINGTON.** 4,612. **TOWN-HALL PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town.

**GREENFIELD.** 5,252. **THE COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors. Now surrounded by shops.

**GREENWICH.** 526. Not heard from.

**GROTON.** 2,057. None.

**GROVELAND.** 2,191. **ELM PARK.** 1 acre. "Owned by the heirs of W. S. Balch, Benjamin Parker, Nathaniel Ladd, and town of Groveland. Kept in repair by nobody in particular. Abutters look after the trees."  
**PERRY PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. First Congregational Society.

**HADLEY.** 1,669. Not heard from.

**HALIFAX.** 562. None.

**HAMILTON.** 961. None.

**HAMPDEN.** 831. **THE GREEN, OR COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town.

**HANCOCK.** 506. None.

**HANOVER.** 2,093. **THE COMMON.**  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Town. The First Congregational Church and the Soldiers' Monument stand on this land.

**HANSON.** 1,267. **TOWN-HALL LOT.** 1 acre. Town.

**HARDWICK.** 2,922. **THE COMMON.** 3 acres. Town. About the year 1740 the present Common was taken instead of the original grant. It contained only a narrow strip of land. In 1791 the town voted to enlarge the Common by taking a strip of land belonging to the cemetery, and to accept a piece of land, a gift of General Warner.

**HIGH-SCHOOL GROUNDS.**  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. The gift of Mrs. William Mixer and others. Laid out for playgrounds, etc., by the town.

**HARVARD.** 1,095. **THE COMMON.** 9 acres, 33 rods. Town. The gift of the original proprietors of Lancaster for a meeting-house site, training-field, etc. The original grant was 30 acres.

**HARWICH.** 2,734. **THE SQUARE.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. In charge of the School Committee. The gift of Sidney Brooks by will.

**HATFIELD.** 1,246. Not heard from.

**HAVERHILL.** 27,412.

The following open spaces belong to the city, and are in charge of a Park Commission:—

**CITY-HALL PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Site of the first meeting-house.

**WASHINGTON SQUARE.** 3 acres. An original public landing on Merrimack River.

**MT. WASHINGTON PARK.** 1 acre. Given when that part of the city was laid out in streets.

**GALE PARK.** 1 acre. Presented to city by John E. Gale.

**WHITE SQUARE.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Presented to city by Samuel White.

**RIVERSIDE PARK.** 25 acres. Part of the city poor farm.

**THE RIVERBANK** from Riverside Park to Eastern Avenue, varying from 50 to 100 feet in width.

In addition there is the **WHITTIER HOMESTEAD.** 30 acres. Belonging to trustees from the Haverhill Whittier Club. The gift of Hon. James H. Carleton in 1892.

**HAWLEY.** 515. None.

**HEATH.** 503. Not heard from.

**HINGHAM.** 4,564. THE TRAINING-FIELD, OR COMMON. 1 acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors.

FOUNTAIN SQUARE.  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors.

**HINSDALE.** 1,739. None.

**HOLBROOK.** 2,474. None.

**HOLDEN.** 2,623. Not heard from.

**HOLLAND.** 201. THE COMMON. 5 acres. Town.

**HOLLISTON.** 2,619. MT. HOLLIS. About 10 acres. Town. First cost for school use and town park, \$1,000.

"An elevated tract, mostly covered by wood. The High-school building stands on the south-eastern corner."

**HOLYOKE.** 35,637.

The following open spaces belong to the city, and are in charge of a Park Commission:—

COGHLAN PARK. 777 square feet. A gift.

CONANCHET PARK. 56,000 square feet. Cost, \$10,000.

EWING PARK. 1,182 square feet. A gift.

GERMAN PARK. 10,882 square feet. A gift.

HAMILTON PARK. 18,059 square feet. Cost, \$6,000.

HAMPDEN SQUARE. 114,400 square feet. A gift.

PROSPECT PARK. 119,713 square feet. A gift.

RANGER PARK. 2,010 square feet. A gift.

**HOPEDALE.** 1,176. None.

**HOPKINTON.** 4,088. Not heard from.

**HUBBARDSTON.** 1,346. None.

**HUDSON.** 4,670. None.

**HULL.** 989. 2-ACRE LOT. 2 acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners, but unusable at present.

**HUNTINGTON.** 1,385. VILLAGE PARK.  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town. In charge of a Village Improvement Society.

**HYDE PARK.** 10,193. None.

**IPSWICH.** 4,439. MEETING-HOUSE GREEN. First Congregational Society.

**LAKEVILLE.** 935. Not heard from.

**LANCASTER.** 2,201. PUBLIC LIBRARY GROUNDS. 1 acre. Town and church. Original church lot purchased in 1816, with an academy lot bought in 1820, and a library lot bought in 1868. Ornamented with trees, etc.

TWO TRIANGULAR SPACES AT INTERSECTION OF THREE ROADS.  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town. Original common lands of the proprietors.

OPEN SPACE AT NORTH VILLAGE AT INTERSECTION OF HIGHWAYS.  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town. Original common lands of the proprietors.

- LANESBOROUGH.** 1,018. Not heard from.
- LAWRENCE.** 44,654. **THE COMMON.** 17 acres. City. Deeded by the Essex Company in 1848 on condition that for twenty years the city expend a sum not less than \$300 annually for its care.
- STORROW PARK.  $10\frac{1}{4}$  acres. City. Given by the Essex Company in 1853.
- WEST PARK.  $7\frac{1}{2}$  acres. City. Given by the Essex Company in 1873.
- UNION PARK.  $11\frac{1}{4}$  acres. Essex Company.
- DEPOT PARK.  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Essex Company.
- RESERVOIR AND GROUNDS. 16 acres. Water Board.
- PUMPING STATION GROUNDS.  $9\frac{1}{8}$  acres. Water Board.
- LEE.** 3,785. **THE PARK.** 1 acre. Town.
- LEICESTER.** 3,120. **THE COMMON.** 2 acres. Town and academy.
- LENOX.** 2,889. **A TRIANGLE.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town. In charge of Village Improvement Society.
- A TRIANGLE.  $\frac{1}{16}$  acre. Town. Kept in order by the Village Improvement Society.
- LEOMINSTER.** 7,269. **THE COMMON.** 1 acre. Town. Was purchased by the town many years ago.
- OLD COMMON, OR TRAINING-FIELD. 2 acres. Town. The gift of Oliver Carter in 1754 "for a perpetual common, or training-field."
- LEVERETT.** 702. Not heard from.
- LEXINGTON.** 3,197. **THE COMMON.**  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. Bought by subscription in 1711. Cost £16, with an additional area in 1722, costing £25, The scene of the "battle of Lexington," 1775.
- HASTINGS PARK. 3 acres. Field and Garden Club. Cost \$2,200, \$1,200 of which was the gift of Miss Alice B. Cary, and \$1,000 was raised by subscription. Bought and improved in 1891.
- LEYDEN.** 407. None. "The town is one vast park."
- LINCOLN.** 987. Not heard from.
- LITTLETON.** 1,025. **THE COMMON.**  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. Bought in 1801 for £11. A small piece was added in 1885 or 1886, when the town-house was built.
- OLD COMMON.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. Was the location of the first church-built between 1714 and 1723, and was reserved by the proprietors of common lands, probably in 1714.
- LIBERTY SQUARE.  $\frac{1}{8}$  acre. Town. Was of early origin, but not recorded.
- TWO SMALL TRIANGLES.  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  acres. Town. Early origin, not recorded.
- LONGMEADOW.** 2,183. Not heard from.
- LOWELL.** 77,696.
- The following open spaces are owned by the city, and managed by a committee of the City Council:—

NORTH COMMON. 11.29 acres.

SOUTH COMMON. 22.48 acres.

"These Commons are laid out with straight concrete walks, bordered with elm and maple trees, furnishing a very good shade in summer, which is greatly appreciated by large crowds of people who are allowed to enjoy the well-kept lawns; and the sign 'Keep off the grass' has been abolished. Ball games are allowed in sections designated for the purpose."

PARK SQUARE. 1.7 acres.

MT. VERNON SQUARE.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre.

ROGERS FORT HILL PARK. 29 acres.

"Through the generosity of Miss Elizabeth Rogers, who gave the land, and a syndicate of gentlemen, Messrs. Eli W. Hoyt, Freeman B. Shedd, Ethan A. Smith, and Thomas R. Garrity, who contributed the funds (\$25,000) to lay it out and grade it, the city of Lowell has a beautiful park. This park includes within its boundary lines Fort Hill, the location of an old Indian fort, a place of historic value in this locality, and from the top of which a very fine view may be obtained. The whole of this park was beautifully laid out, and drives and walks built, trees and shrubs planted, and the work completed before it was donated to the city of Lowell, making a gift of which any city might be proud."

PAWTUCKET BOULEVARD. 124 acres.

"A strip of land lying along the north bank of the Merrimack River, varying in width from 200 to 1,500 feet, and stretching from a point near Pawtucket Falls westerly a distance of nearly two miles, was donated to the city of Lowell on condition that the city should lay it out as a park, and build driveways, so that it could be used and forever maintained as a public promenade. This strip of land contains about 124 acres, upon which the city has already spent \$78,000. A driveway has been built the entire distance, the greater part of it having a double roadway. A great many trees have been planted, and a considerable part of the river-bank improvement has been completed."

LUDLOW. 1,939. None.

LUNENBURG. 1,146. THE COMMON. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Town. In charge of the Village Improvement Society. Originally deeded to the town for a "training-field." Afterward occupied by the First Church. Now open and improved. In the centre of the Common stands an old button-wood tree, planted by John Fuller July 4, 1776.

LYNN. 55,727.

The following open spaces belong to the city, and are in charge of a Park Commission:—

LYNN WOODS. 1,650 acres. Some of this large area was given to the city, some was purchased with money subscribed by citizens, some was bought with money appropriated by the city government.

MEADOW PARK.  $30\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

LYNN COMMON. 21 acres.

GOLDFISH POND PARK. 3 acres.

OCEANSIDE. 700 feet of ocean beach.

In addition there are the Water Supply Reservations, consisting of sev-

eral hundred acres of ponds and their banks controlled by the Water Board. The Lynn Woods, combined with the Water Supply Reservations, form much the largest public domain in Massachusetts. There are included numerous hills, valleys, ponds, brooks, and hidden dells; and it is the intention of the Park Commission to preserve the wildness of the scenery. About one-third of the whole area of Lynn is included in the above-named reservations.

**LYNNFIELD.** 787. There is an attractive, triangular, open space of several acres at the Lynnfield Centre Post-office.

**MALDEN.** 23,031.

The following open spaces belong to the city, and are in charge of a Park Commission:—

LOT ON MEDFORD STREET. 21,064 square feet. A gift Sept. 8, 1862. Originally from the Edgeworth Company as laid out by them for a "public ornament."

TRIANGLE, PLEASANT STREET. 5,253 square feet.

LOT ON HIGHLAND AVENUE. 40,000 square feet.

In addition there is WAITT'S MOUNT. About 8 acres. City. In charge of the Water Board. Purchased in 1889 for \$10,000 for a high-service reservoir.

WEBSTER PARK. 376,739 square feet. City. In charge of the Water Board. The site of numerous driven wells and a steam-pump.

**MANCHESTER.** 1,789. WHITE BEACH PASTURE. 7 acres. Town. Purchased by the town.

TOWN COMMON. 1 acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors.

LITTLE CROW ISLAND. 3 acres. Town. Used as common since the first settlement of the town.

WHITE AND BLACK BEACH. Town.

OLD NECK BEACH. Town.

BLACK COVE BEACH. Town.

LOBSTER COVE BEACH. Town.

TOWN LANDING. Town.

POWDER-HOUSE HILL. 13,250 feet. Town. In charge of the Water Board. Site of a high-service reservoir.

PUMPING STATION GROUNDS. 11½ acres. Town. In charge of the Water Board.

WOOD AND PASTURE LAND ON PLEASANT STREET. 8 acres. Town. Purchased by the town.

ESSEX ROAD WOODS. 7 acres. Town. A narrow belt of woods along the highway. Bought by subscription, and given to the town to be preserved in woods.

**MANSFIELD.** 3,432. THE COMMON. 1 acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors for a meeting-house site and common. The rights of the church have lately been purchased by the town.

"A pretty little park, well shaded, and highly prized by our citizens."

THE COMMON AT EAST MANSFIELD. Town. Acquired by purchase.

WATER SUPPLY RESERVATION. About 5 acres. Mansfield Water Supply District. Acquired by purchase.



**MARBLEHEAD.** 8,202. **FORT GLOVER.** 3 acres. Town. Fine outlook,—from Boston Islands to Eastern Point.

**CROCKER'S PARK.**  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners. The largest part was presented to the town by Hon. Uriel Crocker, of Boston. The balance was purchased.

**FORT SEWALL.** 2 acres. The United States. Loaned to the town for park purposes.

**OLD FORT.** 1 acre. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners. Presented to the town by Hon. J. J. H. Gregory.

**OLD BURYING HILL.** Town. In charge of the Board of Health. A fine outlook.

**MARION.** 871. None.

**MARLBOROUGH.** 13,805.

The following open spaces belong to the city, and are in charge of the Water Board:—

**SLIGO HILL.** 1.8 acres. The site of a high-service reservoir. "The highest point of land between the ocean and Wachusett."

**LAKE WILLIAMS WATER RESERVATION.** 38.65 acres land, 72.2 acres water. "For its size as fine a park as could be desired."

**MILLHAM BROOK WATER RESERVATION.** 146 acres. 70 or 80 acres of this tract will be flooded for an additional water supply.

**MARSHFIELD.** 1,713. **THE COMMON.** "Not much of it left."

**MASHPEE.** 298. None.

**MATTAPOISETT.** 1,148. **TWO BATHING-PLACES.** Town. Beaches on the shore, each about 100 feet square.

**MAYNARD.** 2,700. **PUMPING STATION GROUNDS.** 3 acres. Town. Water Commissioners.

**MEDFIELD.** 1,493. None.

**MEDFORD.** 11,079. **THE COMMON.** 3 acres. Town.

**HASTINGS PARK.** 1 acre. Town.

**BROOKS PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town.

**MEDFORD WATER RESERVE.** 220 acres. Water Board.

**MYSTIC RESERVOIR.** 8 acres. Boston Water Board.

**MEDWAY.** 2,985. None.

**MELROSE.** 8,519. **THE COMMON.** 4.35 acres. Town. The gift of the Hon. D. W. Gooch.

**SEWALL'S WOODS.** 8 acres. Town. The gift of the heirs of Hon. S. E. Sewall.

**MENDON.** 919. Not heard from.

**MERRIMAC.** 2,633. Not heard from.

**METHUEN.** 4,814. **PUBLIC LIBRARY GROUNDS.** 3 acres. The trustees of the Nevins Memorial. The gift of the heirs of David Nevins, in connection with a Public Library Building.

**THE COMMON.** 1 acre. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors for a meeting-house site.



**MIDDLEBORO.** 6,065. Not heard from.

**MIDDLEFIELD.** 455. **THE COMMON.** 2 acres. Town. Church, Town Hall, and school-house stand upon it.

**MILFORD.** 8,780. **TOWN PARK.** No other information.

**MILLBURY.** 4,428. **THE COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town.  
**RAILROAD PARK.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town.

**MILLIS.** 786. Not heard from.

**MILTON.** 4,278. None.

**MONROE.** 282. None.

**MONSON.** 3,650. None.

**MONTAGUE.** 6,296. Not heard from.

**MONTEREY.** 495. None.

**MONTGOMERY.** 266. **THE COMMON.** 1 acre. Town. Two churches and the Town Hall front upon this space.

**MT. WASHINGTON.** 148. None. A town of beautiful scenery and very few inhabitants.

**NAHANT.** 880. **THE LONG BEACH.** A town highway two miles long.

**THE SHORT BEACH.** A town highway.

The shore by what is called **THE FORTY STEPS.**

The shore beside the highway at **LITTLE NAHANT.**

The above-named beaches are those by which the rock island of Nahant proper is connected with the mainland of Lynn.

**NANTUCKET.** 3,268. Not heard from.

**NATICK.** 9,118. **THE COMMON.** About  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. Purchased about 1857 or 1858, and set apart for public use.

**TOWN PARK.** 42 acres. Town. In 1880 it was voted "to dedicate the land owned by the town (round Dug Pond) to the purposes of a public park forever."

**NEEDHAM.** 3,035. **THE COMMON.** 65,000 square feet. Town. Cost, \$2,850.

**HIGHLANDVILLE COMMON.** 18,096 square feet. Town. Cost, \$650.

**PARK** bounded by Dedham Avenue, Warren, and School Streets. 12,920 square feet. Town. A gift.

**WATER SUPPLY RESERVATION.** 17 acres. Town Water Board.

**NEW ASHFORD.** 125. None. "The whole township a romantic park, lying between Greylock and the Taconic Mountains.

**NEW BEDFORD.** 40,733. **THE COMMON.**  $7\frac{7}{10}$  acres. City.

**NEW BRAINTREE.** 573. **THE COMMON.** 2 acres. Town. Deeded as a gift when the town was incorporated, 1751.

**NEWBURY.** 1,427. **THE UPPER GREEN.** 3 acres. Town. Spoken of in town records as early as 1714 as "the training green." Now a beautiful spot.

**THE LOWER GREEN.** 3 acres. Town. Supposed to have been originally intended for a market-place by the first settlers, who, on their removal to a point three miles farther north, abandoned it to its present condition.

**THE CHURCH GREEN.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Methodist Episcopal Church.

**PUBLIC LANDINGS** at Old Town Bridge, Thurlow's Bridge, and Pine Island.

**NEWBURYPORT.** 13,947.

The following spaces belong to the city, and are managed by a committee of the City Council:—

**WASHINGTON PARK.** 6 acres. Bartlet Mall. A part of the park was the gift of William Bartlet in 1800. Other estates were given by citizens and purchased by the city. The whole space has been cared for by an Improvement Association.

**BROWN SQUARE.** 1 acre. The gift of Moses Brown about 1810.

**RIVERSIDE PARK.** 2 acres. Formerly the town landing.

**KENT STREET COMMON.** 4 acres.

**ATKINSON COMMON.** 10 acres.

**NEW MARLBOROUGH.** 1,305. None.

**NEW SALEM.** 856. None.

**NEWTON.** 24,379.

The following spaces belong to the city, and are managed by a committee of the City Council:—

**PLAYGROUND.** About 20 acres.

**FARLOW PARK.** About  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

**AUBURNDALE PARK.** About 24 acres.

**RIVER PARK.** About 3 acres.

In addition there is a **WATER SUPPLY RESERVATION** of about 700 acres, situated in Newton and Needham, and controlled by the Water Board.

**NORFOLK.** 913. Not heard from.

**NORTH ADAMS.** 16,074. **PUBLIC PARK.** About 8 acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners. The gift of S. A. Kemp some ten years ago, to be maintained by the town as a public park.

"This is high ground, overlooking our entire village; and the views are beautifully grand in every direction."

**NORTHAMPTON.** 14,990.

The following open spaces are owned by the city, and managed by a committee of the City Council, except as otherwise noted:—

**THE PLAIN.**  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 acres.

**SQUARE.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre.

**CUTLER PARK.**  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre.

**ELM STREET PARK OR SQUARE.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre.

**HINCKLEY COMMON.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre.

LYMAN PARK.  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre.

LITTLEFIELD PARK, FLORENCE. 1 acre. In charge of the Village Improvement Society. The gift of Mr. Littlefield.

HILL PARK, FLORENCE.  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. In charge of the Village Improvement Association. The gift of S. L. Hill.

COSMIAN PARK, FLORENCE.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. In charge of the Village Improvement Association. The gift of the Cosmian Society.

The Cathedral Woods, which were once the pride of Northampton, were felled by their owner a few years ago.

NORTH ANDOVER. 3,742. THE COMMONS. 4 acres. Town.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH. 6,727. PUMPING STATION LAND. 12 acres. Town. Cost, \$4,500.

NORTHBORO. 1,952. Not heard from.

NORTHBRIDGE. 4,603. None.

NORTH BROOKFIELD. 3,871. Not heard from.

NORTHFIELD. 1,869. Not heard from.

NORTH READING. 874. Not heard from.

NORTON. 1,785. THE COMMON. 1 acre. Town. Set apart as a site for the First Church. Improved some four years ago at a cost of \$1,850.

NORWELL. 1,635. Not heard from.

NORWOOD. 3,733. None.

OAKHAM. 738. Not heard from.

ORANGE. 4,568. THE COMMON.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. About fifteen years ago it was improved at an expense of \$500. This is in North Orange, the site of the first village.

ORLEANS. 1,219. None.

OTIS. 583. THE COMMON. No further information.

OXFORD. 2,616. THE COMMON. No other information.

PALMER. 6,520. Not heard from.

PAXTON. 445. Not heard from.

PEABODY. 10,158. None.

PELHAM. 486. Not heard from.

PEMBROKE. 1,320. None.

PEPPERELL. 3,127. THE COMMON. 2 acres. Laid out by the original proprietors, and still owned jointly by the First Parish and the town.

PERU. 305. MEETING-HOUSE COMMON. 2 acres. Town. Surveyed and laid out by the selectmen of Partridgefield Sept. 5, 1796.

PETERSHAM. 1,050. THE COMMON. 3 acres. Town. In charge of a Village Improvement Society.

**PHILLIPSTON.** 502. Not heard from.

**PITTSFIELD.** 17,281.

The following open spaces belong to the city:—

**CENTRAL PARK.** 1 acre. The remainder of a common laid out by the original proprietors.

"A little cluster of large trees in the middle of the town, under which are benches for the people to sit upon and to enjoy the shade and the breezes. There is nothing else there save the soldiers' monument."

**THE COMMON.** 7 acres. A public ball-ground.

**BURBANK PARK.** About 40 acres. The gift of the late Abraham Burbank. This land forms part of the shore of the beautiful Lake Onota, about two miles from the centre of the city.

"This is the most picturesque region of Massachusetts. Valleys a thousand feet above the sea, with hills rising another thousand feet, lakes and brooks of the purest and clearest water, vistas of rolling hills broken by fertile valleys, make the scenery charming indeed. Every year more and more of the land is taken by wealthy men. Already some of the most beautiful lakes are entirely surrounded by large summer places, and thus excluded from the public. Lake shores and hill-tops afford scenery not to be equalled in this State, and should not be monopolized entirely by private and exclusive ownership. Upon many of our hills the views are magnificent, and land is but a few dollars an acre."

**PLAINFIELD.** 435. None.

**PLYMOUTH.** 7,314. **TRAINING GREEN.** 1 acre. Town. Always owned by the town. In 1711 the town voted to hold it for a perpetual common.

**TOWN DOCK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. Always public property.

**COLE'S HILL.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Pilgrim Society. Purchased at sundry times.

**PILGRIM WHARF.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Pilgrim Society. The gift of J. Henry Stickney, of Baltimore.

The following spaces are owned by the town, and managed by a Park Commission:—

**MORTON PARK.** 150 acres. The gift of Nathaniel Morton and others in 1889.

**BURTON PARK.** 1 acre. Two-thirds appropriated by the town. One-third the gift of N. Morton, 1892.

**BATES PARK.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Dedicated to public use by Moses Bates in 1856.

**BEACH PARK.** 10 acres. In part the gift of George W. Bramball, 1892. Part of it purchased by the town through the Park Commissioners.

**PLYMPTON.** 597. **THE GREEN.** About 3 acres. No further information.

**PRESCOTT.** 376. Not heard from.

**PRINCETON.** 982. **THE COMMON.** 4 acres. Town and Congregational church.

**TOWN HALL GROUND.** 1 acre. Town. Cost, \$600.

**LIBRARY GROUNDS.**  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. The Trustees of the Library. Cost, \$600.

**MEETING-HOUSE HILL.** 3 to 6 acres. Town.

**PROVINCETOWN.** 4,642. **TOWN HILL.** 5 acres. The Commonwealth as part of the "Province Lands." In charge of the town. Formerly the site of the Town Hall, now proposed as a site for a monument to commemorate the first landing of the Pilgrims at Provincetown, Nov. 11, 1620, O.S.  
Several **PUBLIC LANDINGS** used chiefly for business purposes.

**QUINCY.** 16,723.

The following spaces are owned by the city, and managed by a Park Commission:—

**MERRY MOUNT PARK.** 83 acres. The gift of Charles Francis Adams, 1885.

**FAXON PARK.** 28 acres. The gift of Henry H. Faxon, 1885.

In addition there is a **WATER SUPPLY RESERVATION** controlled by the Water Board.

**RANDOLPH.** 3,946. None.

**RAYNHAM.** 1,340. Not heard from.

**READING.** 4,088. Not heard from.

**REHOBOTH.** 1,786. None.

**REVERE.** 5,668. None.

**RICHMOND.** 796. Not heard from.

**ROCHESTER** 1,021. Not heard from.

**ROCKLAND.** 5,213. **WATER RESERVOIR LOT** on Beech Hill, Abington, and Rockland. 2 to 3 acres. "Too far off to be of any use to anybody. People can't stop to provide a place even for a boy to throw a ball or play marbles."

**ROCKPORT.** 4,087. None.

**ROWE.** 541. None.

**ROWLEY.** 1,248. **THE COMMON.** About 4 acres. Town. Acquired from the Widow Hobsen for a training-field by exchange of land about 1670.

**TWO SMALLER COMMONS** in the village.

**TOWN LANDING** on Rowley River.

**THE STOCK YARD.** About  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Used as a place for leaving horses when working on the salt marshes.

**ROYALSTON.** 1,030. **THE COMMON.** 3 or 4 acres. Town.

**RUSSELL** 879. None.

**RUTLAND.** 980. **OLD TEN-ROD ROAD OR COMMON.** 10 acres. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors.

**SALEM.** 30,301.

The following spaces are owned by the city, and managed by a committee of the City Council:—

**THE COMMON.** 9 acres. City. The old training-field.

**THE WILLOWS.** About 30 acres on the shore of the bay.

**LIBERTY HILL.**  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

**SALISBURY.** 1,316. None.

**SANDSFIELD.** 807. **THE COMMON.**  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acres. Town. Reserved by the original proprietors when the town was settled. Elevated ground commanding an extensive view.

**SANDWICH.** 1,819. None.

**SAUGUS.** 3,673. Not heard from.

**SAVOY.** 569. None.

**SEEKONK.** 1,317. None. Several ancient commons were sold by authority of the General Court for the benefit of the school funds of Seekonk and Rehoboth about forty-five years ago.

**SHARON.** 1,634. **THE COMMON.** 1 acre. First Congregational Society.  
**TOWN SQUARE.**  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Town.

**SHEFFIELD.** 1,954. **THE PINE KNOLL.** 4 or 5 acres. Held by five trustees.

"This is a level terrace projecting into the Housatonic meadows, and ringed around by majestic pines of more than a century's growth. The land extends at one point to the village street, and the whole makes an uncommonly lovely village pleasure ground."

**SHELBURNE.** 1,553. Not heard from.

**SHERBORN.** 1,381. **THE COMMON.**  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres. First Congregational Society. Set apart by the town in 1679 for a lot on which to build a meeting-house.

**SHIRLEY.** 1,191. **THE COMMON.** 4 acres. Town. Laid out by the town of Groton April 17, 1755.

**THE GROVE.** 2 acres. Town. Cost, \$533.

**SHREWSBURY.** 1,449. **THE COMMON.** 5 acres. Owned jointly by the First Parish and the town. Laid out by the proprietors of the early settlement for public use and for religious purposes. Originally contained some seventeen acres. Has fine shade-trees and gravel walks.

**SHUTESBURY.** 453. **THE COMMON.** 1 acre. Town. "From this common one can see many miles up and down the lovely Connecticut valley. The view with the windings of the river and the near and distant mountains is one of the most charming in the country."

**SOMERSET.** 2,106. **TOWN LANDINGS** on shores of Taunton River. Sel-  
dom used for any purpose.

**SOMERVILLE.** 40,152.

The following open spaces belong to the city, and are managed by a committee of the City Council:—

**BROADWAY PARK.** 16 acres. Acquired in pursuance of Chap. 97, Acts of 1874. Cost, including land, grading, trees, etc., \$212,993.20.

**NATHAN TUFTS PARK.**  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Acquired in pursuance of Chap. 311, Acts of 1891. The ancient powder-house and 68,357 feet of land were donated. The balance, 129,497 feet, bought at 15 cts. per foot, = \$19,424.55.



**BROADWAY.** 12 acres. A strip on Broadway, varying in width from about eighty to about forty feet. It is grassed, is planted with trees, and has a double track electric railway through the middle. This parkway cost the city for construction \$5,293.22.

**CENTRAL HILL.** 12½ acres. Bought by the town twenty-two or twenty-three years ago. Upon it stand the City Hall, Public Library, high-school house, and an engine-house. Laid out with walks, driveways, etc. A battery has been placed on the site of the "French redoubt."

**SOUTHAMPTON.** 1,017. None.

**SOUTHBOROUGH.** 2,114. **THE COMMON.** 5 acres. Pilgrim Society and the town. Town Hall, church, and school stand on this land.

**SOUTHBRIDGE.** 7,655. Not heard from.

**SOUTH HADLEY.** 4,621. Not heard from.

**SOUTHWICK.** 914. Not heard from.

**SPENCER.** 8,747. **PUBLIC LIBRARY GROUNDS.** 25 acres. Town. The gift of Hon. Luther Hill.

**SPRINGFIELD.** 44,179.

The following spaces are owned by the city, and managed by a Park Commission:—

**BENTON LAWN.** 3.53 acres.

**CALHOUN SQUARE.** 2.43 acres. Part of old "Poor Farm."

**CITY HALL SQUARE.** .16 acre. A purchase.

**COURT SQUARE.** .93 acre. A gift.

**FOREST PARK.** 350.61 acres. 235.81 acres given; 114.80 acres purchased.

**MCKNIGHT TRIANGLE.** .62 acre. A gift.

**MERRICK TERRACE.** .55 acre. A gift.

**PUBLIC LAWN.** .53 acre. A gift.

**STEARNS SQUARE.** .46 acre. A gift.

**TAPLEY PLAYGROUND.** 1.07 acres. A gift.

**THOMPSON TRIANGLE.** 1.06 acres. A gift.

**WINCHESTER TRIANGLE.** .62 acre. A gift.

**STERLING.** 1,244. **CENTRAL PARK.** 3 acres. First Congregational Society and the town.

**STOCKBRIDGE.** 2,132. **THE COMMON.** 3 acres. First Congregational Society. The gift of Thaddeus Pomeroy. Church and Town Hall stand on this land.

**WILLIAMS ACADEMY GROUNDS.** 2 acres. Town. The gift of Ephraim Williams.

**THE PARK.** 2 acres. Town. The gift of Cyrus W. Field.

**LAUREL HILL.** 8 acres. Laurel Hill Association. The gift of members of the Sedgwick family.

**INDIAN BURIAL GROUND.** ¾ acre. Laurel Hill Association.

**RAILROAD STATION GROUNDS.** 1½ acres. Laurel Hill Association. Purchased by subscription.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY GROUNDS.** ½ acre. Library Trustees. The gift of Mrs. Frances F. Dwight.



**STONEHAM.** 6,155. BEAR HILL. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners.

VIRGINIA WOOD. 20 acres. The Trustees of Public Reservations. Gift of Mrs. Fanny Foster Tudor.

SPOT POND. Controlled, with its banks, by the joint Water Boards of Stoneham, Melrose, Malden, and Medford.

PLAYGROUND. Situated in the heart of the town.

**STOUGHTON.** 4,852. TOWN PARK. 6 acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners. Purchased for \$1,800 in 1884.

**STOW.** 903. THE COMMON. About 1 acre. Town and parish.

LOWER VILLAGE COMMON. 1 acre. Claimed by the adjoining owners.

**STURBRIDGE.** 2,074. Not heard from.

**SUDBURY.** 1,197. Not heard from.

**SUNDERLAND.** 663. None.

**SUTTON.** 3,180. Not heard from.

**SWAMPSCOTT.** 3,198. None. "It is with regret not unmingled with mortification that we have to say of our wealthy little town, It has no public spaces, not even a foot of land (save in the street) where a visitor may stand at high tide, and look out upon the ocean."

**SWANZEY.** 1,456. TOWN LANDING.

**TAUNTON.** 25,448. THE GREEN.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acres. City. Laid out by the original proprietors.

WOODWARD SPRINGS. 1 acre. City. The gift of Stimpson Woodward, of Wheeling, W. Va., in 1881.

**TEMPLETON.** 2,999. Not heard from.

**TEWKSBURY.** 2,515. THE COMMON.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. In charge of the Village Improvement Association. Set apart by the incorporators of the town when incorporated, with some additions since that time. Side-walks, shade-trees, etc.

TRIANGLE.  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre. Town. Cared for by the Village Improvement Association.

**TISBURY.** 1,506. Not heard from.

**TOLLAND.** 393. A small tract without name in the centre of the town.

**TOPSFIELD.** 1,022. Not heard from.

**TOWNSEND.** 1,750. THE COMMON.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. The gift of the First Parish. By public subscription lately graded and fenced at an expense of \$2,500.

**TRURO.** 919. Roads terminating at the shore afford a few PUBLIC LANDINGS.

**TYNGSBORO.** 662. Not heard from.

**TYRINGHAM.** 412. Not heard from.

**UPTON.** 1,878. Not heard from.

**UXBRIDGE.** 3,408. Not heard from.

**WAKEFIELD.** 6,982. OLD COMMON AND NEW PARK. 30 acres. Town. Old Common since incorporation of town in 1644. New Park purchased by town about 1870 for about \$25,000. "A delightful strip of grass and trees lying between a highway and the shore of Quannapowitt Lake."

**WALPOLE.** 2,604. THE COMMON.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. Acquired partly by purchase and partly by gift from individuals.

**WALTHAM.** 18,707. THE COMMON. 7.39 acres. City. Purchased of Boston Manufacturing Company,—one-half in 1854, remainder in 1886, for a lot for a City Hall. Cost, about \$80,000.

WATER SUPPLY RESERVATION. 50 acres. City. In charge of the Water Board. Cost will amount to \$25,000.

**WARE.** 7,329. WATER SUPPLY RESERVATION.  $21\frac{3}{4}$  acres. Town. In charge of the Water Board. Cost, \$3,600.

**WAREHAM.** 3,451. None.

**WARREN.** 4,681. Not heard from.

**WARWICK.** 565. Not heard from.

**WASHINGTON.** 434. Not heard from.

**WATERTOWN.** 7,073. TOWN PARK. 5 acres. Town. The Public Library stands on this land.

ABOUT  $\frac{1}{2}$  ACRE on the south bank of Charles River. A narrow strip between a highway and the stream.

THREE PUBLIC LANDINGS on Charles River below the dam.

**WAYLAND.** 2,060. TWO SMALL PIECES. 2 acres. Town. Reserved about two hundred years ago when allotments of land were made by the early settlers. Planted with trees, fine old elms and pines.

**WEBSTER.** 7,031. None.

**WELLESLEY.** 3,600. TOWN PARK. 20 acres. Town. The gift of H. H. Hunnewell, Esq. The Town Hall stands on this land.

There are also TWO OR THREE SMALL TRIANGLES in the centre of the village.

**WELLFLEET.** 1,291. None.

**WENDELL.** 505. FIRST COMMON. 1 acre, 22 rods. Town. A gift to the town in 1786.

SECOND COMMON. 1 acre, 77 rods. Town. Obtained by purchase in 1792 for £30 by vote of the town.

**WENHAM.** 886. THE COMMON.  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre. Town. "Granted and confirmed to the town for a training place 18th, 4th mo., 1680," by Thomas Smith.

SWAMP LANDING. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Town. On the southerly side of Wenham Swamp; used as a "landing" for wood from the swamp.

**WESTBOROUGH.** 5,195. None.

- WEST BOYLSTON.** 3,019. OLD COMMON. 8 acres. Congregational Society. "This land was deeded to the church society by two persons, who stipulated that, should the society ever cease to exist, the land should revert to the heirs of the donors. During the past fifty years the society has ceased to use the land or the meeting-house, and has been kept alive for form's sake by the annual election of officers. As the town now desires to put the neglected common in good order, it will probably adopt the Park Act of 1882, and proceed through a park commission to secure a sound title by condemning the land in question."
- WEST BRIDGEWATER.** 1,917. THE COMMON. A small triangular space occupied by the Soldiers' Monument.
- WEST BROOKFIELD.** 1,592. THE COMMON. 7 acres. Town and parish. The gift of three individuals some time in the eighteenth century.
- WESTFORD.** 2,250. THE COMMON. 1 acre. Town. Purchased by the town for £5 in 1748 for a "training-field."
- WESTHAMPTON.** 477. Not heard from.
- WESTMINSTER.** 1,688. THE COMMON on "Academy Hill." 5 acres. Town. Willed to the town as a "training-field."
- WEST NEWBURY.** 1,796. TRAINING-FIELD. 2 acres. Town.
- WESTON.** 1,664. RIVER PARK. 15 acres. Town. The gift of Charles H. Hubbard, 1892.
- WESTPORT.** 2,599. TOWN LANDINGS. 4 acres. Town. In charge of Landing Commissioners.
- WEST SPRINGFIELD.** 5,077. THE COMMON. About 12 acres. Town. An ancient reservation for pasturage.
- WEST STOCKBRIDGE.** 1,492. CHURCH LAND. 2 acres. "About 1798 Lambert Burghardt executed a deed to the town of two acres as a site for a church, to be held by the town so long as used for church purposes, but no longer. It is yet used for that purpose."
- WEYMOUTH.** 10,866. NORTH WEYMOUTH, OR BEALS PARK.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners.
- WEBB PARK. 7 acres. Town. In charge of Park Commissioners.
- WHATELY.** 779. Not heard from.
- WHITMAN.** 4,441. WHITMAN PARK. Town. The gift of Augustus Whitman.
- WILBRAHAM.** 1,814. THE GREEN. 10 acres. Town. Laid out by the original proprietors.
- WILLIAMSBURGH.** 2,057. None.
- WILLIAMSTOWN.** 4,221. FIELD PARK. "When the village was laid out in 1750, Main Street was gauged fifteen rods wide. It was intersected by a Cross Street six rods wide. The point of intersection was called the 'Square.' The first two meeting-houses of the town stood upon it in succession. Cyrus W. Field spent \$10,000 in beautifying the old 'Square,' and it is now called Field Park."

MISSIONARY PARK. 14 or 15 acres. "Purchased in 1855 by Williams College, and called "Missionary Park" on account of the famous Haystack Prayer-meeting having been held there in 1806. A monument now marks the supposed site of the haystack. One acre is cut off from this park for a college cemetery."

The grounds of Williams College are largely open spaces.

**WILMINGTON.** 1,213. THE COMMON. 4 acres. Town. First cost, \$400.

**WINCHENDON.** 4,390. Not heard from.

**WINCHESTER.** 4,861. THE COMMON. 2 acres. Town. Bought and kept in order by the town. Cost of fountain, about \$1,000. Land and improvements, \$6,000 to \$8,000.

THREE SMALL PLOTS. Kept in order by the town. Cost of each, about \$1,000. In different parts of the village. Given by citizens.

WATER SUPPLY RESERVATIONS in Winchester, Stoneham, and Medford. About 200 acres of land and water.

**WINDSOR.** 612. Not heard from.

**WINTHROP.** 2,726. "Two government reservations for harbor defence batteries comprise together fifty acres, and will furnish the town with ample recreation grounds."

**WOBURN.** 13,499. PUBLIC PARK. 38 acres. City. Cost, \$7,000. "A charming piece of land."

PUBLIC LIBRARY GROUNDS.

**WORCESTER.** 84,655.

The following spaces belong to the city, and are managed by a Park Commission:—

THE COMMON.  $7\frac{3}{4}$  acres. Came partly by dedication from the original proprietors of Worcester as a meeting-house site, common, and training-field, and through the purchase by the city of the rights of the First Parish in December, 1887, for the sum of \$115,695.

CROMPTON PARK.  $12\frac{727}{1000}$  acres. \$44,350.

DODGE PARK. 13 acres. A gift.

EAST PARK. 60 acres. \$45,000 and a concession from the State.

ELM PARK. 88 acres. \$55,000.

FAIRMOUNT SQUARE. 40,200 square feet. A gift.

INSTITUTE PARK. 18 acres. A gift.

LAKE PARK. 1,111 acres. A gift.

NORTH PARK.  $39\frac{421}{1000}$  acres. \$28,265.

UNIVERSITY PARK. 13 acres. \$40,873.

**WORTHINGTON.** 714. Not heard from.

**WRENTHAM.** 2,566. Not heard from.

**YARMOUTH.** 1,760. THE COMMON. 1 acre or less. Town. Reserved by the proprietors for making brick. Graded by the town a few years ago.

TOWN DOCK. 1 acre. Town. Reserved by the proprietors. Not much used now.



*APPENDIX III.*

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HOUSE . . . .

. . . . No. 339.

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REPORT

OF THE

Trustees of Public Reservations,

ON THE SUBJECT OF THE

PROVINCE LANDS.

FEBRUARY, 1893.

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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[CHAPTER 420.]

AN ACT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE LANDS BELONGING TO THE COMMONWEALTH AT PROVINCETOWN, IN THE COUNTY OF BARNSTABLE.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. The trustees of public reservations, created by chapter three hundred and fifty-two of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-one, are hereby authorized to make maps and plans of the lands belonging to the Commonwealth at Provincetown, in the county of Barnstable, not occupied by buildings, and to collect such other information in relation thereto as they may deem expedient, and shall report to the next general court on or before the first Wednesday of February, a comprehensive plan for improving said lands.

SECT. 2. Said trustees shall receive no compensation, but may employ such assistants as they may deem necessary, and may expend such sums therefor and in the discharge of their duties, including the actual travelling expenses of said trustees, as the governor and council may determine.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage. *Approved June 16, 1892.*



## REPORT.

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By chapter 420 of the Acts of 1892, the Trustees of Public Reservations were directed to make a map of the province lands, and to collect information relating thereto. At a meeting of the trustees, held June 15, 1892, the undersigned were appointed a committee to act for the Board in this matter, and accordingly we now respectfully present the following report and the accompanying map :

As to the physical nature of the province lands the facts are these : The highlands of Cape Cod terminate abruptly at High Head in the township of Truro ; north and west of this point the remainder of Truro and the whole of Provincetown is a region of sand dunes bounded by beaches, the curves of which enclose a perfect harbor at the very extremity of Cape Cod. There is evidence that the tides and waves have built one beach after another, each further north than the last, and that the so-called Peaked Hill bar is a new beach now in process of formation. The sand dunes of the old beaches, as they were one by one protected by new beaches to the north, gradually became clothed with the surprisingly beautiful vegetation which adorns them to-day ; while the hollows between the ridges, each of which was in its day a race run, have gradually been filled, as the race run is now filling. Many of these hollows among the sand hills contain fresh-water ponds, the shores of which support a charming growth of tupelo, sweet azalea, clethra, and the like ; and in the shelter of the ridges and even upon their crests grow oaks, maples, beeches, and pitch pines. The layer of surface soil upon the hills is nowhere more than three or four inches deep ; but the underlying sand is wonderfully retentive of moisture, so that this peculiar terminus

of the cape presents in its uninjured parts a more verdurous landscape than the main body of the outer cape can show.

As to the State's title to the Province lands, the facts appear to be as follows: The colony of New Plymouth was granted all the coast from Cohasset to Narragansett by royal patent dated Jan. 13, 1629–30. The colony in turn granted parts of its domain to the several sub-colonies or plantations, but never so granted the extremity of Cape Cod. On the contrary, the governor of Plymouth, under an order of the General Court of 1650, purchased the tip end of the cape from an Indian called Samson, "for the said Colonies' use." There was included in this purchase all the shore of Cape Cod harbor from House or Long Point "easterly until it comes to a little pond next the eastern harbor" and thence "northerly to the back sea."

In 1692 the Province of Massachusetts Bay acquired all the possessions of Plymouth Colony, and the lands at the cape came to be called province lands. In 1714 it was enacted "that henceforth all the province lands on the said cape be a precinct or district," and in 1727 the following important act was passed :

*"Be it enacted, etc., that all the lands on said cape — being province lands — be and hereby are constituted a township by the name of Provincetown, and that the inhabitants thereof be invested with the powers, privileges, and immunities that any of the inhabitants of any of the towns within the province by law are or ought to be invested with; saving always the right of this province to said lands, which is to be in no wise prejudiced. And provided that no person or persons be hindered or obstructed in building such wharves, stages, workhouses, and flakes, and other things as shall be necessary for the salting, keeping, and packing their fish, or in cutting down and taking such trees and other materials, growing on said province lands, as shall be needful of bait at the said cape, but that the same be held in common, as heretofore, with all the privileges and advantages thereunto in any wise belonging."*

When the provincial government was at an end these lands thus expressly reserved to the province became the property

## REPORT ON PROVINCE LANDS.

of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which has maintained its title ever since. To be sure the revised statutes of 1836 contained a section (section 12, chapter 119) which would have transferred the title from the Commonwealth to the squatters on its property at the end of twenty years, had not the General Court enacted in 1854, chapter 261, sections 8 and 9, as follows :

“ The title of the Commonwealth as owner in fee to all the province land within the town of Provincetown is hereby asserted and declared, and no adverse possession or occupation thereof by any individual, company, or corporation for any period of time shall be sufficient to defeat or divert the title of the Commonwealth thereto.

“ The provisions of the twelfth section of the Revised Statutes, chapter 119, shall not be held to apply to any of the province lands in said town of Provincetown.”

Nothing has occurred since 1854 to impair the title which was then so vigorously asserted.

As to the management of the province lands by colony, province, and Commonwealth, the main facts are the following: The colony of New Plymouth maintained a “water bailiff” at Cape Cod harbor during fishing seasons, and through him collected a considerable income from the sale of “fishing privileges,” which included the right to use the colony lands for the drying of fish. That this use of the lands by fishermen resulted in injury to the protecting vegetation of the sands, is proved by the fact that the first legislation dealing with the cape lands after the union of Plymouth with Massachusetts was “An Act for preserving the harbor at Cape Cod, and regulating the inhabitants and sojourners there.” (Chapter 3, Acts of 1714.) Here is the instructive preamble of this early act :

“ Whereas, the harbor at Cape Cod, being very useful and commodious for fishing, and the safety of shipping, both inward and outward bound, is in danger of being damnified, if not made wholly unserviceable, by destroying the trees standing on the said cape (if not timely prevented), the trees and bushes being of great service to keep the sand from being driven into the harbor by the wind, — *Be it enacted, etc.*”

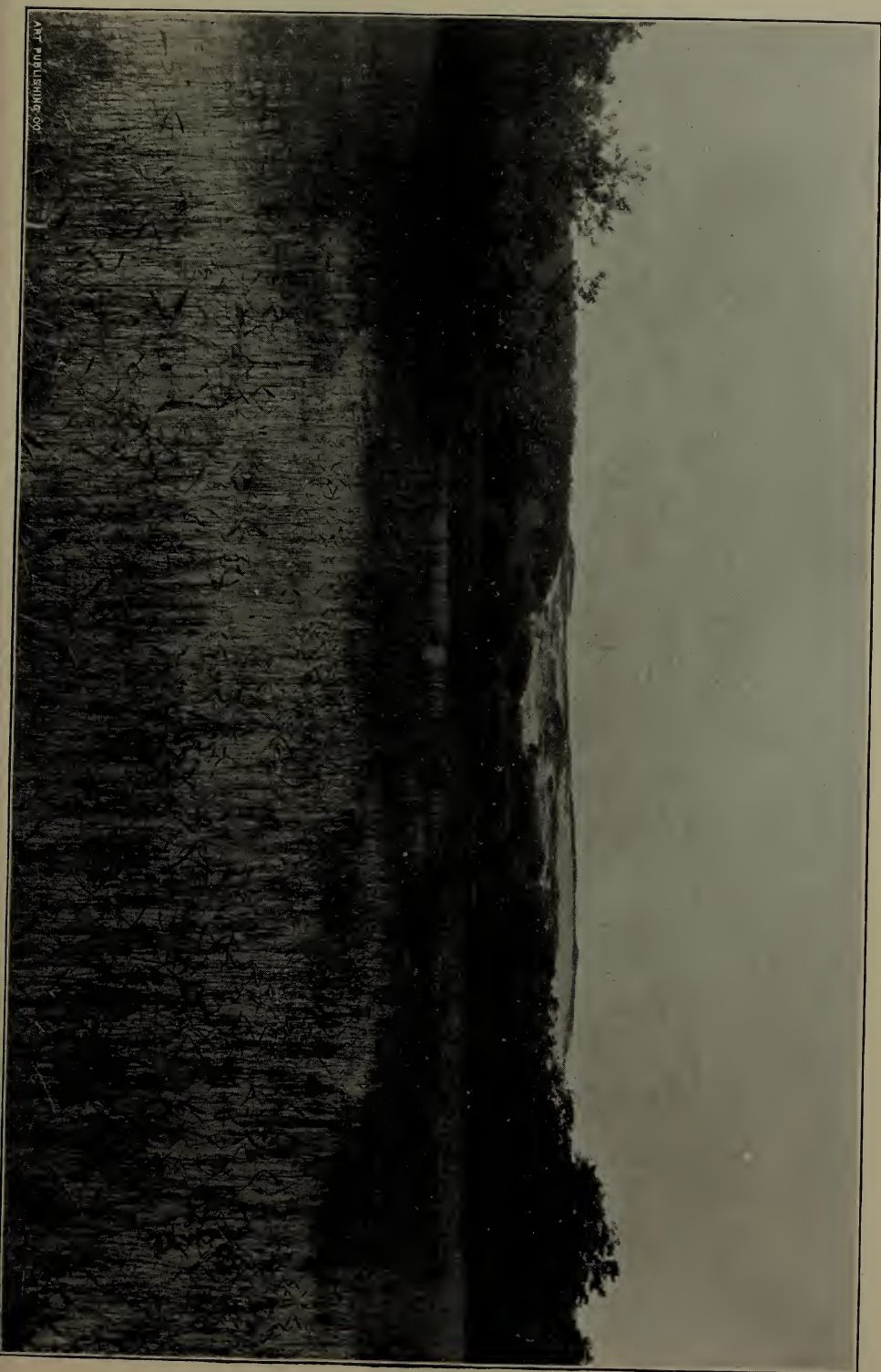
In 1727 the town of Provincetown was established by the act already quoted. Again in 1740 there was published "An Act to prevent damage being done to the harbor of Cape Cod by cattle and horse-kind feeding on Provincetown land;" and when this act proved ineffectual it was amended and added to at various times, and finally recast by the General Court of 1780. Nevertheless, a special commission, appointed in 1825 to report upon Cape Cod harbor, found that trees had been cut down on the seaward side of the Cape, and the sand loosened thereby. "The space, where a few years ago were some of the highest lands on the cape, covered with trees and bushes, now presents an extensive waste of undulating sand." This report resulted in an appeal to the national government, and led to the expenditure of twenty-eight thousand dollars between 1826 and 1838, in an endeavor to repair the damage done to the protecting beaches of the harbor by planting beach grass on the loosened sands. In 1833 we find "An Act to prevent the destruction of beach grass in the towns of Provincetown and Truro." In 1837 a second special commission made various recommendations, which were embodied in "An Act for the preservation of the province lands in the town of Provincetown." In 1852 another five thousand dollars was expended on the cape by the national government, and in 1853 and 1854 reports were again addressed to the General Court by special commissions. The report of 1854 was a thorough and comprehensive document, from which much of the foregoing information has been gathered. Influenced by it the General Court passed still another "Act for the protection of the province lands," namely, chapter 261, Acts of 1854, an act which, as modified by chapter 218 of the Acts of 1869, regulates the management of the province lands to-day. The latest act reads as follows :

AN ACT IN ADDITION TO AN ACT FOR THE PROTECTION OF PROVINCE  
LANDS IN PROVINCETOWN.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows :*

SECTION 1. If any person shall, without the consent in writing of the agent to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, pull up or destroy any beach-grass, bushes, or trees, or remove sods on or































ART. HUSTON CO.









## REPORT ON PROVINCE LANDS.

from the province lands in Provincetown, in the county of Barnstable, or shall use any of the said lands for pasturage without consent as aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of five dollars for the first offence, and ten dollars for every subsequent offence, to be recovered on a complaint before any trial justice for said county of Barnstable.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the council, immediately after the passage of this act, and in the month of June in each year thereafter, to appoint an agent, who shall be an inhabitant of Provincetown, and who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his duty, and who shall prosecute for the penalties mentioned in the preceding section, and the same when recovered shall be for the use of said town; and the said agent may grant written permits to remove trees, sods, and brush from unexposed or low and swampy places, and also for pasturage, when, in his opinion, after he shall have made a personal examination of the premises, such permits may be granted without causing injury to Cape Cod harbor, or to any public or private property. For such permits granted by said agent, he shall receive from the party obtaining the same the sum of one dollar, which shall be paid into the treasury of the aforesaid town. Said agent shall hold his office for one year, unless sooner removed by the governor and council, or until his successor shall be appointed and qualified, and he shall receive three dollars for each day's actual service, from said town.

SECT. 3. The said town of Provincetown shall annually elect a committee of three persons, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty; and said town is hereby authorized to enter by said committee, chosen as aforesaid, upon any of the province lands enclosed or unenclosed, for the purpose of setting out pines, bushes, or grass, whenever said committee may deem it necessary for the preservation of said harbor or of any highway in said town.

SECT. 4. Whenever, in the opinion of said committee, it shall become necessary, in consequence of any violation of the provisions of this act, to set out pines or beach-grass on any lot of said lands enclosed, the expense thereof shall be paid by the person or persons in the occupancy of the same; and in case of refusal by any occupant to pay such expense, it may be recovered by said committee in an action of contract in any court proper to try the same.

SECT. 5. The said town of Provincetown is hereby empowered to raise annually such sum of money as may be deemed necessary to defray the expenses of planting pines and setting out beach

grass on said province lands, and to pay the aforesaid agent and committee for the services by them rendered; and any sums raised for these purposes shall be assessed and collected as other taxes now are.

SECT. 6. So much of chapter two hundred and sixty-one of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and fifty-four, and all other acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed; but nothing in this act contained shall be construed as repealing sections eight and nine of said chapter two hundred and sixty-one, or any portion of section twelve of chapter one hundred and fifty-four of the General Statutes.

In practice this latest of the long series of enactments intended to preserve the province lands and Cape Cod harbor has not accomplished the purpose expressed in its title. The few squatters who occupied small parcels of the province lands when they were made a township in 1727 have increased, until the whole harbor beach is occupied by commercial buildings, and Provincetown, with five thousand inhabitants, has become the largest town in Barnstable county. With so large a population seated upon open lands defended by only one poorly paid agent of the Commonwealth, it is not surprising that unlawful gathering of firewood and sod should have occasioned much damage in the course of twenty years. The fact is that the law of 1869 has become little more than a farce. In 1891 the State agent was paid by the town for just five days' attention to the defence of the State's property, the agent paid to the town four dollars received by him for the four permits, which were all he issued in that year, and no attempt was made to prosecute for taking material without a permit. Moreover, although the town goes through the form of an annual election of a beach grass committee, nothing whatever has been done by this committee during any recent years.

What manner of destruction is going on meanwhile in the rear of the village of Provincetown the pictures herewith submitted will serve to show. Half of the province land is already a treeless waste. The commissioners of 1825 reported to the General Court that this desert was the result of the stripping of vegetation from the seaward sand hills. We find to-day that, once the mat of plant roots is removed

## REPORT ON PROVINCE LANDS.

from a windward slope, the north-west gales cut into the wounded place and proceed to undermine the adjacent plant-covered slopes.\* The sands blown out of such places are dumped in the lee, in the nearest hollow, burying the trees and bushes and stifling them to death.† Once rid of the trees, the sands are drifted by the winds like snow. The beach grass planted by the government seems to have stayed the destruction of the old ridges in some measure; but the wheels of carts continually crossing the sand drifts in the direction of the worst gales soon broke the grassed surface so that the wind got hold, "blew out" great areas, and dumped the sand in such steep drifts in the edges of the woods that many cart paths become impassable, so that new routes were sought, where the operation was repeated. Within the province lands the grassy Snake Hills and the wooded ridge called Nigger Head have bravely withstood the gales without serious change since Major Graham surveyed the field in 1833-35; but between these two points the winds have made great havoc. Wooded knolls have been cut in two, ponds filled up, and such woodland buried. East of Nigger Head and towards eastern harbor, beyond the bounds of the province lands, the changes have been even more violent. Several salt creeks have been wholly filled up, and former sand ridges levelled so that the hulls of vessels on the ocean are now visible from the harbor.

In view of all these facts and others elicited at the hearing, a stenographic report of which is herewith submitted, it is obvious that Cape Cod harbor can be preserved from eventual destruction only by the united action of the United States, Massachusetts, and Provincetown. The United States, upon obtaining possession of Long Point in 1864, constructed valuable protective works. Over her own portions of the sand breakwater of the harbor the Commonwealth ought certainly to exercise an effective control. The present arrangement under which the agent of the State is paid by the town, and by the day, is anomalous and absurd. Accordingly, in the draft of an act which is appended to this report, the superintendent of the province lands is made the

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\* See illustration No. III.

† See illustration No. IV.



servant of the State alone. By wisely directing the routes of travel across the sands, by watching for and attending to the beginnings of wind cuts, and by inducing a gradual re-foresting of the dunes, a capable superintendent could, we believe, successfully check the further progress of destruction. It would remain for the town of Provincetown to assist the superintendent in every possible way, seeing that its interests as a summer resort as well as its continued existence as a town depend alike upon the preservation of the remaining verdure of the province lands.

In conclusion, we would propose that the appointment and oversight of the superintendent of the province lands should rest with the Board of Harbor and Land Commissioners already established. Chapter 19, section 3, of the Public Statutes, decrees that these commissioners "shall have charge of all the lands, flats, shores, and rights in tide-waters belonging to the Commonwealth, except those for which other provision is made, and shall, as far as practicable, ascertain the location, extent, and description of such lands; investigate the title of the Commonwealth thereto; ascertain what parts thereof have been granted by the Commonwealth; the conditions, if any, on which such grants were made, and whether said conditions have been complied with; what portions have been encroached or trespassed on, and the rights and remedies of the Commonwealth in relation thereto; prevent further encroachments and trespasses; ascertain what remaining portions of such lands may be leased, sold, or improved with benefit to the Commonwealth and without injury to navigation or to the rights of riparian owners; and for the purposes aforesaid may, with the approval of the governor and council, require the services and assistance of the attorney-general. They may lease for purposes not injurious to navigation or to the rights of riparian owners any parts of the aforesaid lands of the Commonwealth for periods not exceeding five years."

Section 2 of the same chapter directs them to recommend in their annual reports "such legislation as they deem necessary for the preservation and improvement of the harbors of the Commonwealth, and for the promotion of its interests connected therewith." Section 18 gives them authority to



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"apply to Congress for appropriations for protecting and improving any harbor in the Commonwealth."

Chapter 144 of the Acts of 1886 provides that "the board of harbor and land commissioners shall have charge of all the lands and rights in lands belonging to the Commonwealth, wherever the same are situate, except those for which other provision is made by law, and shall have the same powers and duties in respect to such lands that they now have or may hereafter have under general laws in respect to lands, flats, shores, and rights in tide waters belonging to the Commonwealth."

Thus the Harbor and Land Commission is already possessed of ample authority to enable it to care for the province lands after they have once been placed under its charge. Moreover, under section 2, just quoted, the commission might well render a great service to the permanent interests of the State, as well as those of Provincetown, by recommending to the General Court some measure which would result in an amicable adjustment of the private claims upon the province lands. Thus the State might agree with Provincetown to grant to the town the title to the southern or closely occupied part of the lands, on condition that the town would clear of buildings some portion of the harbor beach, and bear the cost of the extinction of the squatter claims on the northern or wild lands.

The above report is respectfully submitted by

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C. S. SARGENT,  
GEO. WIGGLESWORTH,  
CHARLES ELIOT,

*Standing Committee of the Trustees of Public Reservations.*

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE BETTER MANAGEMENT OF THE  
PROVINCE LANDS.

SECTION 1. The board of harbor and land commissioners shall have general care and supervision of the *province lands* at the extremity of Cape Cod, shall fix and mark the bounds thereof, shall establish regulations for the care thereof, shall annually appoint a superintendent thereof, and, with the approval of the governor and council, shall fix the amount of his compensation, and the amount which may be expended by him in the protection and improvement of said lands.

SECT. 2. Chapter 218 of the acts of 1869, and all other acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of July, eighteen hundred and ninety-three.







